

A U C T I O N

94

The Gasvoda Collection - Part II

6 October 2016

NUMISMATICA ARS CLASSICA NAC AG
ZÜRICH - LONDON

AUCTION 94

6 October 2016

The Gasvoda Collection - Part II

Coins of the Imperial Period and the Twelve Caesars

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The following terms and conditions are accepted by all persons participating in the auction:

1. Auction bidding is conducted in Swiss Francs. The highest bidder who has been acknowledged by the auctioneer when the hammer falls after the third call has legally bought the lot. Bidding usually begins at 80% of the estimate, provided no higher offers have been submitted. Written bids have priority. The successful bidder has committed himself personally to the purchases made. He cannot claim to have acted on behalf of a third party.
2. Absentee bidders can bid up to 24 hours before the start of the auction by writing, telephone or electronically. Telephone bidders must agree that calls may be recorded. The auction house does not accept liability for bidding mandates made by telephone, electronically or in writing.
3. Bidders must show proof of identification before the auction, and subsequently be registered. The Auction House may require a bank reference and/or guarantee. The Auction House reserves the right to deny a person from participating in the auction.
4. The auctioneer may raise or reject a bid without giving a reason, and furthermore reserves the right to combine or split up catalogue lots, or to offer them out of sequence or omit or withdraw them from the auction.
5. A commission of 20% will be levied on the hammer price - phone bidders and bidders using our Live Internet facilities pay an additional charge of 1.5%. The Swiss value added tax (VAT) of 8.0% is payable on the final price (hammer price, plus buyer's commission and any other amounts chargeable by the Auction House to the buyer). **Gold coins (AV) are exempt from VAT.**
If the purchases are exported, then the VAT will be refunded on production of a legally valid original export declaration issued by the Swiss Customs.

6. Payment is in Swiss Francs and is immediately due upon adjudication of the lot and has to be paid with the release of the object to the Buyer, unless otherwise agreed before the sale. Late payments will incur a monthly default interest of 1%. Title in a lot will not pass to the Buyer until NAC has received full payment on his account. NAC will generally not release a lot to a Buyer before payment. Earlier release of the lot does not affect its title nor the Buyer's obligation to pay. If the Buyer has failed to make immediate payment and within 5 days after receipt of a registered, written reminder by NAC to the buyer, NAC may in its sole discretion cancel the sale of the lot.
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11. The contractual relationship between parties is subject in all facets to Swiss law. Place of performance is the registered office of the Auction House in 8001 Zurich, and the exclusive court of jurisdiction is Zurich.

Conditions de la vente aux enchères

Du fait de la participation à la vente aux enchères, les conditions suivantes sont réputées être acceptées :

1. Les enchères sont effectuées en Francs Suisses. L'adjudication est réalisée après trois appels consécutifs du plus offrant dont l'offre a été acceptée par le commissaire priseur et qui constitue une obligation. La mise à prix est effectuée en règle générale à 80 %, dans la mesure où il n'y a pas d'offres disponibles et plus élevées. Les offres formulées par écrit sont prioritaires. Chaque enchérisseur s'engage personnellement en ce qui concerne les acquisitions réalisées par ses soins. Il ne peut pas faire valoir le fait d'avoir agi pour le compte d'une tierce personne.
2. Les demandes d'enchères par téléphone ou par écrit (également par moyen électronique) pour les personnes intéressées et non présentes sont réceptionnées jusqu'à 24 heures avant le début de la vente aux enchères. Les enchérisseurs par téléphone acceptent que la communication téléphonique puisse être enregistrée. La salle des ventes n'assume aucune responsabilité quant aux enchères effectuées par téléphone, électronique ou par écrit.
3. Les enchérisseurs sont priés de se légitimer avant la vente aux enchères et de se faire enregistrer à l'issue de la vente. La salle des ventes peut exiger une référence bancaire et/ou une garantie. La salle des ventes a le droit de ne pas laisser une personne participer à la vente aux enchères.
4. L'enchérisseur peut, à sa guise, surenchérir une offre ou bien la décliner sans indication de motifs. L'enchérisseur se réserve en outre le droit d'associer des lots, de les séparer, de faire des offres en dehors de l'ordre prévu ou de les laisser de côté, voire de se retirer de la vente aux enchères.
5. Une commission de 20% est perçue sur le prix d'adjudication. Les acquéreurs qui souhaitent participer aux enchères par téléphone ou en ligne avec nos facilités Live Internet paieront un frais supplémentaire de 1,5%. La taxe à la valeur ajoutée suisse d'un montant de 8,0 % sera perçue sur le prix définitif (prix d'adjudication plus supplément et sur tous les autres montants facturés à l'acquéreur par la salle des ventes). **Les pièces de monnaie en or (AV) sont dispensées de la TVA.**
En cas d'exportation de l'objet adjudiqué vers l'étranger, l'acquéreur se voit restituer la TVA lorsqu'il est en mesure de présenter une déclaration d'exportation réglementaire, en bonne et due forme, des autorités douanières suisses.
6. Le prix total en francs suisses est exigible immédiatement après adjudication et doit être acquitté lors de la remise de l'objet adjudiqué. Pour les paiements effectués ultérieurement un intérêt moratoire de 1% par mois sera facturé. La transmission de la propriété à l'acquéreur a lieu seulement à paiement intégral. En général, NAC ne remet l'objet adjudiqué à l'acquéreur pas avant paiement. Une éventuelle remise de l'objet n'a cependant pas de l'influence ni sur la propriété du vendeur ni sur l'obligation de l'acquéreur de payer.
En cas que l'acquéreur n'a pas payé simultanément et non plus entre les cinq jours après réception d'un avertissement sous pli recommandé, NAC est en droit de se départir du contrat sans autre formalité et sans avis ultérieur.
7. Les frais d'envoi et d'assurance sont à charge et au risque de l'acheteur. Les taxes ou les impôts facturés à l'étranger sont à la charge de l'acquéreur (enchérisseur). Il lui incombe de s'informer au sujet des directives étrangères en matière de douane et de devises. La salle des ventes décline toute responsabilité pour les éventuelles infractions à l'encontre de ces directives.
8. **La salle des ventes garantit l'authenticité des monnaies sans réserve et sans limitation dans le temps.** Toutes les indications mentionnées dans le catalogue sont rassemblées en toute conscience et en toute bonne foi.
9. Les objets mis aux enchères le sont pour le compte de tierces personnes ou bien sont la propriété de la salle des ventes. L'acquéreur (enchérisseur) n'a aucun droit d'obtenir communication du nom de la personne qui met en vente et se déclare en accord avec le fait que la salle des ventes perçoive une provision de cette dernière.
10. Les présentes conditions font partie intégrante de tout contrat de vente conclu dans le cadre de la vente aux enchères. Les modifications ne sont valables que par écrit. Le fait que des parties des présentes conditions de vente aux enchères venaient à ne plus correspondre, ou du moins plus intégralement, à la situation juridique en vigueur, n'affecte en rien les autres parties, ni dans leur contenu, ni dans leur validité. La version en langue allemande constitue la référence des présentes conditions de vente aux enchères.
11. La relation contractuelle entre les parties en cause est soumise, dans toutes ses composantes, au droit Suisse. La compétence juridique est fixée au siège de la salle des ventes à 8001 Zurich, et le for juridique exclusif est Zurich.

Condizioni di vendita

La partecipazione all'asta comporta l'accettazione delle seguenti condizioni:

1. La valuta in cui viene condotta l'asta è il Franco Svizzero. L'aggiudicazione al miglior offerente, individuato dal banditore, avviene dopo la terza chiamata e comporta per l'aggiudicatario l'acquisto con tutti i relativi obblighi di legge. Le offerte partono generalmente dall'80% del prezzo di stima a meno che una o più offerte d'importo maggiore siano state presentate. Le offerte scritte hanno la precedenza. Il partecipante all'asta è personalmente responsabile per l'acquisto effettuato e non può pretendere di avere agito per conto di terzi.
2. I partecipanti all'asta non presenti in sala possono presentare offerte telefonicamente, in forma scritta, o per via elettronica fino a 24 ore prima dell'inizio dell'asta. Chi trasmette la propria offerta telefonicamente presta il proprio consenso all'eventuale registrazione della telefonata. La casa d'asta non assume alcun tipo di responsabilità per le offerte trasmesse in forma scritta, elettronica o telefonica.
3. I partecipanti, per concorrere all'asta, dovranno esibire un documento d'identità e registrarsi. La casa d'asta si riserva il diritto di richiedere referenze bancarie o un deposito cauzionale per permettere la partecipazione all'asta. La casa d'asta si riserva inoltre il diritto di non permettere a un soggetto la partecipazione all'asta.
4. Il banditore d'asta ha facoltà di aumentare o rifiutare un'offerta secondo la propria discrezionalità e senza necessità di fornire una motivazione. Il banditore si riserva inoltre il diritto di unire, separare, cambiare la sequenza prevista o di eliminare e/o ritirare dall'asta determinati lotti.
5. Al prezzo d'aggiudicazione va aggiunta una commissione del 20%. Gli offerenti che parteciperanno all'asta per telefono o 'live' attraverso internet pagheranno un costo supplementare dell'1,5%. L'imposta svizzera sul valore aggiunto, pari attualmente al 8,0%, viene applicata sul prezzo finale (prezzo d'aggiudicazione più commissione ed ogni altro importo imputabile al compratore dalla casa d'aste). **Le monete in oro (AV) sono esonerate dal pagamento dell'IVA.** In caso d'esportazione dell'oggetto acquistato all'asta verso un paese estero, il compratore ha diritto al rimborso dell'IVA dietro consegna di una valida dichiarazione d'esportazione dell'ufficio doganale della Confederazione Elvetica.
6. Il pagamento è da effettuarsi in Franchi Svizzeri immediatamente all'aggiudicazione del lotto, a meno che concordato diversamente prima dell'asta. In caso di ritardato pagamento il tasso d'interesse moratorio applicabile è pari all'1% mensile. La proprietà del lotto non passerà al compratore fino a che la NAC non riceverà il pagamento a saldo dell'acquisto. Generalmente la NAC non rilascia un lotto al compratore prima di ricevere il pagamento di tale. La consegna anticipata di un lotto non incide sulla proprietà di tale né sull'obbligo di pagamento da parte del compratore. Se il compratore non paga subito e nel caso in cui egli non effettui il pagamento entro 5 giorni dalla ricezione di una raccomandata, scritta da NAC come avviso di mancato pagamento, la NAC si riserverà la facoltà di cancellare la vendita di tale lotto.
7. I costi ed il rischio della spedizione sono a carico del destinatario. Qualunque imposta e contributo legalmente dovuto nel paese d'esportazione è a carico dell'acquirente (compratore in sede d'asta) su cui ricade la responsabilità per la conoscenza delle norme vigenti in materia doganale e di valuta. La casa d'aste non assume alcuna responsabilità per l'eventuale violazione di tali prescrizioni.
8. **La casa d'asta offre una garanzia incondizionata e senza riserva di tempo sull'autenticità delle monete.** Le indicazioni e descrizioni contenute nel catalogo sono opinioni soggettive e sono espresse in buona fede.
9. Gli oggetti offerti vengono messi all'asta per conto di terzi o sono di proprietà della casa d'asta. L'acquirente (compratore in sede d'asta) non ha il diritto di conoscere l'identità del consegnatario dell'oggetto e prende atto che alla casa d'asta potrebbe venir corrisposta dal consegnatario una commissione per la vendita.
10. Le condizioni sopra menzionate costituiscono parte integrante di ciascun contratto individuale di vendita concluso nell'asta. Eventuali modifiche saranno ritenute valide solo se fatte in forma scritta. Nel caso in cui una parte delle presenti Condizioni di Vendita dovesse essere non più totalmente conforme alla vigenti disposizioni di legge, cioè non avrà effetto sulla validità delle parti restanti. L'unica versione di testo delle Condizioni di Vendita che ha valore legale è quella in lingua tedesca.
11. Il rapporto contrattuale fra le parti è regolato in tutti i suoi aspetti dal diritto della Confederazione Elvetica. Il luogo d'adempimento è la sede della casa d'aste a Zurigo (8001). Il foro competente è esclusivamente quello di Zurigo.

US IMPORT RESTRICTIONS ON COINS OF ITALIAN AND GREEK TYPE

None of the coins offered in this sale are subject to any kind of US import restrictions, since we are in possession of the necessary documentation for importation into the United States.

Nevertheless, Numismatica Ars Classica NAC AG endeavours to provide its American clients with the best service possible and we will therefore take it upon ourselves whenever possible to carry out all of the customs formalities for importation into the USA and will then ship the lots to each individual client from within the United States.

TIME TABLE ZEITTADEL ORDRE DE VENTE ORDINE DI VENDITA

Thursday, 6 October 2016 13:30 – 15:30 1 – 191

EXHIBITIONS AUSSTELLUNG EXPOSITION ESPOSIZIONI

London – At our premises

1 – 22 September 2016

Monday to Friday 9:30 – 17:30
Saturday & Sunday by appointment only

Zurich

At the Zurich premises (2 nd Floor):	Monday, 3 October 2016	09:30 – 17:30
	Tuesday, 4 October 2016	09:30 – 17:30
At the Hotel Baur au Lac, Talstrasse 1, 8001 Zurich:	Wednesday, 5 October 2016	09:30 – 18:00
	Thursday, 6 October 2016	09:00 – 13:00

Please visit our auction online at www.arsclassicacoins.com

Die Auktion erfolgt unter Mitwirkung eines Beamten des Stadtmannamtes Zürich 1. Jede Haftung des anwesenden Beamten, der Gemeinde und des Staates für Handlungen des Auktionators entfällt.

Gradi di conservazione	Grades of preservation	Erhaltungsgrad	Degrés de conservation	Grados de Conservación
Fdc Fior di conio	Fdc Uncirculated	Stempelglanz	Fleur de coin (FDC)	FDC
Spl Splendido	Extremely fine	Vorzüglich	Superbe	EBC
BB Bellissimo	Very fine	Sehr schön	Très beau	MBC
MB Molto bello	Fine	Schön	Beau	BC

Mike Gasvoda is a semi-retired professional engineer from Indiana in the United States. His professional career, covering thirty years, was involved in the water and wastewater treatment industries. He and his wife, Lynn, spend winters in Tucson, Arizona but still come back to Indiana for the summers to spend time with their children and new grandson. Mike has spent most of his life collecting coins of one type or another having initially caught the collecting bug from his maternal grandparents who had saved obsolete coins collected from sales of ears of corn at their street side stand in front of their home. Those Buffalo nickels, Mercury dimes and Standing Liberty quarters got him interested in coins and history nearly 45 years ago.



His collecting interests were mainly in US coins having completed and sold complete sets of Washington quarters; liberty nickels; Mercury dimes; and seated silver dollars. The collection that started his ancient coin interest was a set of mint state “red” Indian cents. With this set nearly complete Mike decided to part with the collection and switch to something new. He bought his first Roman coin, a Caius and Lucius denarius of Augustus from a blind ad in a magazine some thirty years ago. His first ancient Roman collection focused on portraits of all Roman emperors appearing on denarii. Having learned quite a bit about Roman coinage and history, Mike also sold that collection and decided to focus on the coinage of the twelve Caesars exclusively.

The collection presented here is a result of Mike’s efforts spanning the past twenty years and was formed much more carefully than his previous efforts. Mike was assisted, for the first time, by aligning with an ancient coin dealer to be a mentor and provide advice on auctions. He chose to work almost exclusively with Steve Rubinger, owner of the ancient coin firm Antiqua, and former president of Numismatic Fine Arts. Steve had originally collected the same series and was able to offer advice in areas such as: artistic style; rarity; pricing; and originality of surfaces when inspecting coins for Mike at auctions around the world. In Mike’s words “I could not have put this collection together without Steve—we basically became a collecting team over the past twenty years and along the way we also became good friends.”

As Mike’s collection grew and he was able to add significant pieces to his collection, his reputation became known to many other dealers as well. Over the years he became friends with many of these dealers, who he also worked with on private sales. These dealers include Victor England and Eric McFadden from CNG; Harlan Berk; Ed Waddell; Frank Kovacs; Herb Kreindler; Alan Walker, then of Leu and now with Nomos; Peter Weiss; Rob Freeman and David Michaels from Freeman and Sear and NAC’s owner Arturo Russo.

Through Victor England and Peter Weiss, Mike also was introduced to the American Numismatic Society where he eventually joined the board of Trustees and is presently serving as their first vice president. It was at this time that Mike met Rick Witschonke, who has sadly recently passed away. The support and knowledge provided by Rick is something “that I will always cherish” according to Mike.

Collectors in the United States will know Mike as a very active promoter of the hobby. Parts of the collection being offered here have been exhibited at the American Numismatic Association World’s Fair of Money (EID MAR and Brutus portrait aureus in 2012 and the twelve Caesars in gold in 2014). He is also a frequent speaker at national, regional, and local shows and club meetings. He has given over 50 presentations on ancient coins over the years. He is also an award winning writer on the subject of ancient coins with over a dozen published articles.

Mike was a long time subscriber to the Celator magazine and became friends with Wayne Sayles and Kerry Wetterstrom – both owner/editors at different times. When he started writing articles for the Celator, he also began to give historical presentations to various coin clubs. In his career he was a frequent speaker and this comfort transferred easily into talking about ancient coins. He still loves doing “coin talks” and hopes to do that for the rest of his life. It is his hope that he can transfer some of the knowledge that Steve, and others, taught him on to the next generation of ancient coin collectors.

When asked “what now?” Mike has indicated that he will continue to collect, just not the twelve Caesars. “I still have several other specialty collections of various series of ancient coins and will pursue those just like I collected the twelve Caesars”. Where one collection is gone another is just beginning. Once a collector always a collector!

About the collection – in Mike’s words...

The collection offered here has been a big part of my life for the past twenty years. The historical period covered by the twelve Caesars is one of the most well-documented and interesting periods in the history of western

civilization. This could have been just another collection if it were not for the friendship I developed with Steve Rubinger. It just so happened that Steve and I hit it off immediately and I owe so much of my collecting knowledge to Steve and his tutelage. There is no more important piece of advice I can offer someone collecting ancient coins than to have them form a close relationship with a knowledgeable dealer that they trust completely. In my case that dealer turned out to be Steve. He and I conferred frequently about upcoming auctions and it always involved my limited budget and which lots were the most important to bid on in any given sale. Equally importantly, Steve personally inspected every lot before we placed a bid and it was not uncommon for us to pass on a lot because it was not as we expected initially.

We developed a program where I would give Steve a list of lots that were of interest to me. We would have a preliminary conversation about those lots and he might suggest others I had missed or equally suggest some of the lots I liked could be found better. We might start with twenty possible lots, end up bidding on five or six, and actually be successful on only two or three. Sometimes we lost out on pieces that I, years later, wish we had won but usually we got the lots we went after the hardest. In my opinion the small fee that Steve charged for this auction service was money extremely well spent.

I learned to study history and always tried to know the reason why each coin was struck. I read everything I could and attended every presentation given on the subject. I also corresponded with writers, academics, and others to clarify points that confused me. In certain areas I would suspect my knowledge came to even equal that of Steve. Arturo Russo has allowed me to write the historical background for the pieces in this sale and any errors in the presented history are mine and mine alone. I offer opinions and I hope it is clear when I am stating my opinion versus stating known historical facts.

With respect to this collection, I should say that I have become enthralled with portrait styles and how they were portrayed both on coinage and in statuary. I comment frequently on the lots in this sale with my thoughts about specific portrait styles from coins in my collection. You may not agree with my assessments but that is OK. Each of us prefer certain styles. I like the Flavian coins from Ephesus, for example. I know people who don't like this style at all. To each their own.

I like idealized portraits and I like realistic portraits. I find it fascinating that Claudius comes in almost equal quantities both ways. I also find it interesting that Galba has two distinct portrait styles, although both have a stern countenance. Moreover, I love big portraits – big bronzes and large silver issues. The bigger the coin, the better the chance for the engraver to truly display his talents. I got so picky about portrait styles in my later years that I would pass on otherwise near perfect pieces because I felt the portrait was inferior. My Otho aureus is a good example. My piece grades about EF and several have sold in recent years that approach mint state. These higher grade pieces were beautiful but I would put my coin up against them any day based on artistic style.

Aside from portrait style I am also fascinated by the historical significance of the coins I collect. It is not that unusual that an important piece historically just doesn't come with great portrait style. If so, I collected it anyway, usually looking for the highest grade specimen I could find.

I also purposely collected in all three metals. I have come to believe that coin designs in each metal were made for a specific, and different, audience. Bronzes were for the plebs, silver mainly struck to pay the military and gold was mainly for the wealthy and the military leaders. Clearly an emperor could have a different message to transmit to each of these groups. Therefore collecting in all three metals was the only way to get the complete picture of the propaganda that an emperor was expounding via his coinage.

The decision to sell the collection was very difficult. While my interest in the twelve Caesars remains extremely high, my ability to add new pieces to the collection became quite limited. I am too picky and the coins I needed either were not available or so expensive as to severely limit my ability to afford them. Also for me the first joy in collecting is "the thrill of the chase". When the chase got too hard the thrill waned. So I am parting with this part of my collection to pursue other ancient coin interests which are still new to me. Perhaps one day another "Gasvoda Collection" will cross the auction block when I have yet again lost the thrill in that series.

It is my hope that the coins offered here will find new homes and bring as much joy to the new owners as they have brought to me. Even though the coins are moving on, I will always consider them "my babies". I hope the new owners will be able to enjoy them as much as I have.

Happy collecting and best of luck with your collecting interests.

Mike Gasvoda

Following the resounding success of Auction 86 - Part I of the Gasvoda Collection of Coins of the Imperial period and the Twelve Caesars, Numismatica Ars Classica is honoured to present Part II of the same collection. This second part is by no means inferior to its predecessor, and in certain areas it is indeed superior; for instance the bronze offering is particularly exceptional. We find it superfluous to repeat what we have already written in the foreword to Part I of the collection, but we would like to stress once again how fascinating we find Mike's chosen subject of the Twelve Caesars for a collection. In this period there are countless important and historically significant coins, and we feel that Mike's collection reflects this beautifully along with capturing the magnificent artistic quality of coins of this period.

The auction opens with a spectacular aureus of Sulla (lot 1), followed by a series of exceptionally fine and rare aurei and denarii of the imperial period. This series includes a superb denarius of Julius Caesar issued by L. Flaminus Chilo (lot 13) which, as Mike rightly points out, represents one of the best known portraits of the great general. Also noteworthy is a rare and very interesting aureus of Brutus issued by M. Flaminus (lot 19). Special mention must be paid to the EID MAR denarius of Brutus (lot 20), certainly one of the most fascinating coins ever issued and one of the pivotal coins in every collection of Roman coins-this particular specimen is one of the best examples we have ever seen in our numismatic career. Directly following the EID MAR denarius is another exceptional coin both in terms of rarity and quality for its type, the denarius of Marcus Antonius issued by P. Clodius (lot 21) which also boasts an extraordinary provenance. Lot 27 is a remarkable denarius for its portraits of Marcus Antonius and his brother Lucius Antonius, as is lot 28, a denarius issued by Agrippa bearing the confronted portraits of Julius Caesar and Octavian; again, a coin that is almost impossible to find in better condition and with a more prestigious pedigree. Concluding the Imperial highlights, we cannot fail to mention lot 35, the first of a long series of exceptionally well-preserved bronzes, which bears the portraits of Octavian and Julius Caesar; both portraits are of exceptional artistic quality.

In line with the first part of the collection, this second part also presents an exceptional series of denarii, aurei and cistophori of Augustus. Particular highlights include: one of the first denarii issued by Octavian following his victory at the battle of Actium sporting a portrait of outstanding quality (lot 38); two cistophori in an exceptional state of preservation (lots 46 and 47) and an exceedingly rare aureus with a spectacular portrait and unusual representation of the Victory (lot 57).

I take the opportunity of this foreword to compliment Mike on having chosen an aureus of Tiberius (lot 88) which, to the untrained eye, would appear to be a common and ordinary piece. However, in reality this coin bears a very unusual portrait of the emperor which serves to demonstrate either, as Mike suggests, the evolution of the emperor's depiction over the years, or a very realistic portrait which shows Tiberius' real features.

The coins issued by Caligula do not disappoint, with lot 95, an unusually well-preserved aureus bearing the portrait of Augustus or Tiberius (as David Vagi discusses in his commentary), followed by lot 96, a spectacular sesterius with a reverse representation of the emperor's sisters.

Following on, the series for Claudius is just as exceptional as the offering in part I, and it includes two utterly exceptional coins. The first, lot 102, is an aureus of Claudius with the very rare camp gate reverse which is in absolutely remarkable condition for its type. The second is lot 107, perhaps the best sesterius of Claudius that we have ever had the chance to admire in our career; this coin boasts a highly unusual portrayal of the emperor and is the work of an immensely talented engraver presenting the emperor in an idealised manner.

The sale continues with Nero, starting with a very interesting set of denarii and aurei representing the emperor with his mother Agrippina (lots 111-114), followed by a series of sestertii of exceptional quality including lot 124 featuring the triumphal arch and lot 125 with the closed doors of the temple of Janus on their reverses respectively.

This exceptional series of bronzes continues with one of the best specimens of Galba ever to appear at a public auction (lot 139) and a superb as of Vitellius (lot 152). Yet again, we cannot help but remark on the exceptional quality of both portraits and the great talent of their die engravers.

The series for the Flavians contains a rich selection of coins in an excellent state of preservation. Particular highlights are bronzes once again; this time a sesterius of Vespasian (lot 160) and a sesterius of Domitian (lot 177). The latter is possibly the finest we have ever had the pleasure of inspecting in our careers. Collectors of sestertii know all too well that Domitian is one of the most difficult emperors to find in a good state of conservation and with a portrait of fine style.

We would like to conclude by mentioning two outstanding aurei: one for its quality and style (lot 178) and the second for its rarity and exceptional pedigree (lot 191). The latter would not technically belong to a collection of Twelve Caesars since it was issued by Trajan, but it was nevertheless Mike's wish to include it in his collection in order to present another portrait of Julius Caesar.

Like Part I, this catalogue includes interesting commentaries written by Mike: some are historical notes which are the fruit of his studies and research and others are “recommendations” which we again invite readers to take into appropriate consideration.

Very often scientific rarities do not bear relation to the degree of difficulty in finding such coins on the market; this is especially true when it comes to coins which, while common, are sometimes very difficult to find in good condition. Unfortunately, only years and years of experience and time spent leafing through auction catalogues can give the collector a full grasp of this truth. Nowadays search engines certainly provide collectors with some guidance and support; however, only continuous research and the study of books and auctions of the past can give a full appreciation of the perceptible rarity and inaccessibility of a certain coin type in a particular condition.

Mike has devoted much time and effort to the study of coins and, in the future, the fact that the coins offered here formerly belonged to his collection will no doubt represent an added endorsement, as is always the case for coins that previously belonged to important and thoughtfully-assembled collections.

We are sure that you will enjoy going through this catalogue and we wish you every success on your bids.



The Roman Republic

The mint is Roma unless otherwise stated



- 1 *L. Cornelius Sulla Imperator with L. Manlius Torquatus Proquaestor.* Aureus, mint moving with Sulla 82, AV 10.78 g. L·MANLI – PRO Q. Helmeted head of Roma r. Rev. *Triumphator*, crowned by flying Victory in quadriga r., holding reins and caduceus; in exergue, L·SVLLA·IM. Bahrfeldt 13. Babelon Manlia 3. Cornelia 38. Sydenham 756. ANS exhibit September 1996, 64 (this coin). Calicó 16. RBW 1385 (this coin). Crawford 367/4.

Very rare and among the finest specimens known of this intriguing issue.

Struck on a full flan and extremely fine 100'000

Ex Superior Galleries May 1988, Moreira, 1736; Leu 52, 1991, 144; Triton III, 1999, 816 and NAC 63, RBW part II, 161 sales.

In the Roman Republic gold coinage was struck only on rare occasions. It was introduced during the Second Punic War, when Rome and her Italian allies struggled to defeat the Carthaginian invader Hannibal, and it was not struck again for nearly 125 years. This next occasion was a crisis that equally tested the Romans, the uprising of their Italian allies in 91 B.C. After suffering initial defeats, Rome was able in 90 and 89 to satisfy most of its former allies with promises of Roman citizenship. Despite Rome pacified most of its opponents, the Samnites continued to resist, and in 88 even appealed to king Mithradates VI of Pontus for help. Mithradates sent financial aid and, in the meantime, he caused the murder of 80,000 Romans and Italians living in Asia before ravaging Roman territories in Asia Minor and Greece. These two crises – the resistance of the Samnites and the aggressions of Mithradates – set the stage for a conflict between the Roman warlords Sulla and Marius. Despite many tribulations, Sulla overcame all of his opponents, in part by unleashing Rome's own armies against the capital, something which had never before occurred. Sulla was able to impose what later Roman historians called the *Regnum Sullanum*, a dictatorial era during which he executed his enemies with appalling cruelty. However, he eventually restored the senate's power, and in 79 retired to Campania shortly before he died.

This rare aureus celebrates the triumphs Sulla was awarded for his defeat of Mithradates, and of the Samnites at the Battle of the Colline Gate in 82. On the reverse a triumphal quadriga bears the figure of Sulla, who is crowned by a Victory flying above. The inscription L SVLLA IM makes it clear that Sulla is the figure in the quadriga. This aspect should not be overlooked, for it is an early example of a Roman coin depicting a living person – something that would eventually become a defining feature of coins of the Imperial period. In this aureus we have a precursor to the royal portraiture initiated by Julius Caesar nearly four decades later. Also, since this coin was issued either contemporarily or soon after Sulla's triumphal procession through the streets of Rome, it serves as a document of that great event.



- 2 *L. Cornelius Sulla*. Denarius, mint moving with Sulla 84-83, AR 3.87 g. Diademed head of Venus r.; in r. field, Cupid standing l., holding palm branch; below, L·SVLLA. Rev. IMPER Jug and *lituus* between two trophies; below, ITERVM. Babelon Cornelia 29. Sydenham 761. RBW 1364. Crawford 359/2.
Struck on a very broad and with a lovely old cabinet tone, good very fine 450

Ex M&M 38, 1968, 162 and Antiqua list XIV 2006, 115.



- 3 *M. Iunius Brutus*. Denarius 54, AR 3.45 g. LIBERTAS Head of Libertas r. Rev. The consul L. Junius Brutus walking l. between two lectors preceded by an *accensus*. In exergue, BRVTVS. Babelon Junia 31. Sydenham 906. RBW 1452. Crawford 433/1.
Wonderful iridescent tone and good extremely fine 1'000

Ex NAC sale 25, 2003, 313.

Imperial Issues



- 4 *Q. Sicinius and C. Coponius*. Denarius, mint moving with Pompey 49, AR 3.95 g. Q·SICINIVS – III·VIR Head of Apollo r., hair tied with band; below, star. Rev. C·COPONIVS – PR·S·C Club upright on which hangs lion's skin with head r.; in l. field, arrow and in r. field, bow. Babelon Sicinia 1 and Coponia 1. Sydenham 939. Sear Imperators 3. RBW 1558. Crawford 444/1a.
In exceptional condition for the issue. A portrait of fine style struck and perfectly centred on a very broad flan, wonderful iridescent tone and extremely fine 3'000

Ex NGSA V, 2008, 191 and Triton XVI, 2013, 860 sales.

This coin is simply stunning. MSG.



- 5 *L. Hostilius Saserna*. Denarius 48, AR 4.05 g. Bearded male head r.; behind, Gallic shield. Rev. L·HOSTILIVS Naked Gallic warrior in fast biga driven r. by charioteer, holding whip; below horses, SASER[N]. Babelon Hostilia 2. Sydenham 952. Sear Imperators 18. RBW 1569. Crawford 448/2a.
Rare. Old cabinet tone and extremely fine 3'000

Ex M&M 43, 1970, 185; NFA IV, 1977, 519; Hirsch, 1997, 193 and Triton VIII, 2005, 937 sales.

Is this obverse image the head of Vercingetorix, the last Gallic chieftain to hold out against Julius Caesar? The engraving style between dies seems too uniform to believe it can be other than a real person being identified. Given the timing of the issue and Julius Caesar's self promotional nature, I believe it is very likely that this is indeed an image of Vercingetorix, the final Gallic leader to be conquered. The portrait is stunning with full detail and nicely centered. Likewise the reverse is nicely centered and with full detail. This example is as good as this issue comes. MSG.



- 6 *L. Hostilius Saserna*. Denarius 48, AR 3.85 g. Female head r. with long hair; behind, *carnyx*. Rev. [L·]HOSTILIVS – SASERNA Artemis standing facing, holding spear and placing r. hand on head of prancing stag. Babelon Hostilia 4. Sydenham 953. Sear Imperators 19. RBW 1570. Crawford 448/3.
Wonderful old cabinet tone, virtually as struck and almost Fdc 2'500

Ex Leu 17, 1977, Nicolas, 665 and NAC 73, 2013, Student and his Mentor II, 186 sales.

Some years ago I wrote an article for the Celator magazine about the Gallic *carnyx* – or war horn. I had long known that this particular issue of Saserna included the *carnyx* behind the female head on the obverse. The problem was getting a coin that wasn't either off centre or had the *carnyx* shown well engraved. This particular coin finally came on the market and I snatched it up. It is still the best version of the *carnyx* that I have ever seen on a coin. This is a nice full flan with all details as engraved and intended. MSG.



- 7 *Julius Caesar*. Denarius, Asia 48-47, AR 3.90 g. Diademed head of Venus r. Rev. CAESAR Aeneas advancing l., carrying palladium in r. hand and Anchises on l. shoulder. Babelon Julia 10. C 12. Sydenham 1013. Sear Imperators 55. RBW 1600. Crawford 458/1. Woytek Arma et Nummi, p. 218 ff.
Light iridescent tone and a perfect Fdc 1'000

Ex Tkalec sale May 2010, 140.



- 8 *Q. Caecilius Metellus Pius Scipio and P. Licinius Crassus.* Denarius, Africa 47-46, AR 3.84 g. Q·METEL·PIVS – [S]CIPIO·IMP Lion-headed figure of *Genius Terrae Africae*, standing facing, clad in long robes, holding *ankh* in r. hand; at sides of head, G·T· – A. Rev. P·CRASSVS·IVN – LEG PRO·PR Victory standing l., holding caduceus and shield. Babelon Caecilia 51 and Licinia 21. Sydenham 1050. Sear Imperators 43. RBW 1604. Crawford 460/4.

Very rare and among the finest known. Wonderful old cabinet tone and extremely fine 12'500

Ex M&M 81, 1995, 247; NAC 10, 1997, 541; Triton I, 1997, 1208; M&M list 603, 1998, 116; Peus 372, 2002, 1075 and Hess-Divo 317, 2010, P.A. 771 sales.

This is a tough coin to find in any grade. I have seen perhaps a half dozen during the twenty years I have been building this set. This one is the finest I have found. MSG.



- 9 *Q. Caecilius Metellus Pius Scipio.* Denarius, Africa 47-46, AR 3.80 g. Q·METEL Laureate head of Jupiter r.; below, PIVS. Rev. SCIPIO Elephant r.; in exergue, IMP. Babelon Caecilia 47. Sydenham 1046. Sear Imperators 45. RBW 1601. Crawford 459/1.

A portrait of unusually fine style for the issue and a lovely old cabinet tone. Extremely fine 1'000

Ex J. Schulman 233, 1960, 1124 and Triton XVI, 2013, A.K., 862 sales.

I already owned this piece (see NAC 86, Gasvoda part I) when Steve Rubinger put this example in his catalogue. I decided to add this as a duplicate because the quality is unusually nice. I particularly liked the reverse as everything is perfectly centered and fully detailed. A really neat example of an otherwise common type. MSG.



- 10 *Julius Caesar and L. Munatius Plancus.* Aureus 45, AV 7.97 g. C CAES – DIC·TER Draped bust of Victory r. Rev. L·PLANC – PRAEF·VRB Jug. Babelon Julia 19 and Munatia 2. Bahrfeldt 20. Sydenham 1019b. Sear Imperators 60. RBW 1663. Calicó 45. Crawford 475/1a.

Struck on a very broad flan and about extremely fine

6'500

Ex Busso Peus 308, 1983, 346; Spink-Taisei 44, 1992, 21 and Künker 124, 2007, 7550 sales.



- 11 *Julius Caesar and P. Sepullius Macer.* Denarius 44, AR 3.97 g. CAESAR IMP Wreathed head of Caesar r.; behind, eight-rayed star. Rev. [P·S]EPVLLIVS – MACER Venus standing l., holding Victory and sceptre resting on star. Babelon Julia 46 and Sepullia 1. C 41. Sydenham 1071. Sear Imperators 106a. RBW 1679. Crawford 480/5b.

A nicely engraved portrait and a pleasant old cabinet tone, light areas of weakness and slightly off-centre on reverse, otherwise about extremely fine

2'500

Ex Leu 77, 2000, 505 and Antiqua IX, 2000, 87 sales.

The reverse is slightly off centre and, as is typical, somewhat weakly struck. I bought this coin for the obverse portrait which is fully detailed and nicely engraved. A very nice lifetime portrait! MSG.



- 12 *Julius Caesar and L. Aemilius Buca.* Denarius 44, AR 4.00 g. CAESAR·IM – P – M Wreathed head of Caesar r.; behind, crescent. Rev. L·AEMILIVS – BVCA Venus standing l., holding sceptre and Victory. Babelon Julia 34 and Aemilia 13. C 22. Sydenham 1060. Alföldi, Caesar, pl. XXXIV, 132 (this coin). Sear Imperators 102. RBW –. Crawford 480/4.

A lovely portrait well struck on sound metal and a light iridescent tone. Extremely fine

7'500

Ex Triton VI, 2003, 778 and Gemini III, 2007, 316 sales. From the G.E. collection.



- 13 Denarius 43. AR 3.90 g. Laureate head of Caesar r. Rev. L·FLAMINIVS – IIII VIR Goddess standing l., holding caduceus in r. hand and sceptre in l. Babelon Julia 45 and Flaminia 3. C 26. Sydenham 1089. Sear Imperators 113. RBW –. Crawford 485/1.

Rare. A superb portrait of fine style and the work of a very skilled master-engraver.

Struck in high relief on a very broad flan, unobtrusive areas of weakness, otherwise good extremely fine

40'000

Ex Künker sale 174, 2010, 586.

This is the best of my Julius Caesar portrait coins. A simply stunning piece that I would buy again in a heartbeat if I was going to rebuild this set. Steve Rubinger commented one day that the issues of Flaminius generally have the best portraits of Julius Caesar. I had not given it much thought until he made that comment. Since then I have studied the coins of Julius Caesar extensively and I agree with his assessment. And this particular coin is one of the best survivors from Flaminius in my opinion. If you are building a set of great portrait coins this is the one to buy for Julius Caesar. MSG.

Few portraits of Julius Caesar are as well-executed as those on this issue of 43 B.C. by the moneyer L. Flaminius Chilo. It is obvious even to the untrained eye that special care was taken in the engraving of Caesar's portrait. This must have involved considerable effort, especially since the earlier Caesar portraits of 44 B.C. often are of such poor quality. The demands that such an improvement in artistry would have placed on the engravers at the Rome mint likely were difficult to meet. For this reason, it is suspected that these denarii could not have been created until after Octavian had arrived in Rome late in the summer of 43 B.C., and had secured his position. Crawford notes that the identity of the rather ambiguous god on the reverse is not certain, though it likely is Venus or Pax. In either case, he reasons that the sceptre represents dominion and the caduceus symbolises Felicitas. The other denarius type of this moneyer is equally pro-Caesarean, as it pairs a head of Venus Victrix with Victory in a biga.



- 14 Marcus Antonius, C. Caesar Octavianus and Lepidus. Bronze, Ephesus 40-39 BC, Æ 4.87 g. Conjoined bare heads of Octavian, Mark Antony, and Lepidus r. Rev. [APXI] – EPE / [Y]Σ Γ – PAA / [Γ]AAΥ – ΚΩΝ / Ε – ΦΕ / Μ – Α – (Ζ) – ΣΑ / Σ Cult-statue of Artemis Ephesia facing surrounded. RPC I 2573. SNG Copenhagen 358 var. (magistrate).

Rare, only eight specimens cited by RPC. Brown tone and good very fine

1'000

Ex Triton III, 1999, 767 and Antiqua XIV, 2006, 126 sales.

I love this little coin. I owned two of them – one was also in the first sale. This is a particularly nice example showing the heads of the members of the second triumvirate. If this was not considered a provincial coin it would probably bring ten times what it does in a typical sale. Regardless, I think it is a great addition to an imperial/twelve Caesars set. MSG.



- 15 *C. Caesar Octavianus and Julius Caesar.* Aureus, Gallia Transalpina and Cisalpina 43, AV 8.11 g. C·CAESAR·COS·PONT·AVG Bare and bearded head of Octavian r. Rev. C·CAESAR·DICT·PERP·PONT·MAX Laureate head of Julius Caesar r. Babelon Julia 64. C 2. Bahrfeldt 28 and pl. V, 3 (these dies). Sydenham 1321. Sear Imperators 132. Kent-Hirmer pl. 33, 116. Calicó 52. RBW 1714. Crawford 490/2.

Extremely rare and in unusually fine condition for this difficult issue. Two very attractive portraits of fine style, minor areas of weakness and slightly off-centre on reverse, otherwise about extremely fine / good very fine

60'000

Ex Vinchon 23 April 1976, 209 and NGSA 4, 2006, 142 sales.

The set stopper for a portrait set of the twelve Caesars in gold. Photos don't do this coin justice. The coin is off center but all the right details are on the coin and really well defined. The portraits of Octavian and Julius Caesar are both full and stylistically engraved. Really a neat example of an incredibly difficult issue. MSG.

The rise of Octavian from inheritor of the estate of Julius Caesar to political powerhouse can be described as nothing short of miraculous. In only a single year this virtual unknown had changed the landscape of Roman politics with bravado surely learned from his deceased uncle and adoptive father. When Octavian had been recalled to Rome after Caesar's assassination he had only two things going for him. He had the bulk of the wealth of Caesar assigned to him and he had Caesar's name. Neither of these facts would be of particular use without the brilliant maneuverings of this teenage prodigy.

Between the time of his return to Rome in 44 BC and the minting of this aureus, Octavian had accomplished much. He arrived at a city in total chaos after the murder of Caesar. The conspirators had failed to have a plan for government following the demise of Caesar and that left the supporters and opponents in a rapid battle for supremacy. Marcus Junius Brutus and Cassius had fled Rome in fear for their lives. Decimus Brutus had been sent north to raise troops to stabilize the empire. Marc Antony had laid siege to Mutina where Decimus Brutus was holed up, and the Roman Senate was left wondering what would be the end result of the madness that had swept Rome.



- 16 *Octavianus.* Denarius, Gallia Cisalpina and Italy 43, AR 3.72 g. C·CAESAR – IMP Bare head of Octavian r. Rev. Equestrian statue l.; in exergue, S C. Babelon Julia 63. C 246. Sydenham 1318. Sear Imperators 131. Crawford 490/1. Rare. Old cabinet tone, a banker's mark on obverse, otherwise very fine 500

Ex Vecchi 7, 1997, 653; Giessener Munzhandlung 87, 1998, 471 and Künker 124, 2007, 8561 sales.

This is a favourite type coin for me as it is the first appearance of Octavian on a coin. Very often found in low grade, it is nonetheless a very historically important coin. It's a great piece of history at a low price! Here you see a young Octavian for the first time on the obverse. The reverse shows the equestrian statue that he demanded the senate build for him after putting down the siege at Mutina. It is a brazen display of Octavian's contempt for the senate. I also love the obverse banker's marks as you can just picture a merchant looking at this coin and saying "What is this coin and who is this being portrayed? I better check to see if this is real silver or not...." MSG)



- 17 Denarius 42. AR 3.92 g. Laureate head of Caesar r.; behind, laurel branch and before, caduceus. Rev. L·LIVINEIVS / REGVLVS Bull charging r. Babelon Julia 57 and Livineia 1. C 27. Sydenham 1106. Sear Imperators 115. RBW 1730. Crawford 494/24.
Very rare and in unusually fine condition. Exceptionally well struck for the issue and with a superb old cabinet tone, extremely fine 12'500

Ex NAC sale 18, 2000, 349. Privately purchased from Harlan J. Berk on 2nd March 2011.

I happened to be visiting Harlan Berk one day at his store and he set on his desk a collection of the twelve Caesars he had just bought in silver. Each coin was nice but by that time I was fairly far along in my collection. I already owned this type (see first sale) but I was taken by this coin as being particularly nice for the issue. I couldn't resist and added it to the collection – as well as a few other pieces. I don't know who the collector was that put the set together but they had a good eye for nice coins. MSG.



- 18 *Julius Caesar and L. Mussidius Longus*. Denarius 42. AR 4.12 g. Laureate head of J. Caesar r. Rev. L·MVSSIDIUS·LONGVS Rudder, cornucopiae on globe, caduceus and apex. Babelon Julia 58 and Mussidia 8. C 29. Sydenham 1096a. Sear Imperators 116. RBW 1742. Crawford 494/39a.
Rare. Struck on a very broad flan and with a light iridescent tone. Extremely fine 10'000

Ex NAC sale 33, 2006, 380.

The image of Julius Caesar was a powerful tool for the cause of Antony and Octavian, who were preparing to battle Brutus and Cassius when this denarius was struck in 42 B.C. When the great armies clashed at Philippi in October of that year, the Caesarians were victorious, and thus had avenged the murder of Caesar and moved the Roman world one step closer to monarchy. Though the portrait of the slain dictator is arresting, the reverse is equally symbolic. The cornucopiae-on-globe and the rudder allude to Caesar's success as a commander who brought so much of the Mediterranean world under his control, the apex reflects Caesar's position as Pontifex Maximus, and the winged caduceus may be seen as an emblem of the contentment his conquests had brought to the Roman world. A few minor exceptions aside, Octavian last used Caesar's portrait as a main feature of his coinage in 38, when he issued impressive types to celebrate his descent from the deified Caesar.



- 19 *Q. Caepio Brutus and M. Servilius*. Aureus, mint moving with Brutus 42, AV 8.03 g. M·SERVILIUS – I·F·G Laureate head of Libertas r. Rev. Q·CAEPIO· – BRVTVS·IMP Helmeted and cuirassed trophy with shield and two spears. Babelon Junia 47. C 9. Bahrfeldt 66 and pl. VII, 17 (this reverse die). Sydenham 1314. Sear Imperators 206. Calicó 61. RBW 1775. Crawford 505/4.

Very rare. An attractive specimen of this desirable issue perfectly struck and centred on a very large flan. Extremely fine

60'000

Ex M&M 43, 1970, 236; Hirsch 193, 1997, 10 and NAC 24, 2002, European Nobleman, 5 sales.

While Crawford dates this issue to 43-42 B.C., Sear refines the dating to the second meeting of Brutus and Cassius which took place at Sardis during the summer of 42 B.C. and which ultimately led to the final confrontation with Octavian. According to Plutarch, the meeting took place behind closed doors, which shows the strains of their partnership, but the pair's mutual recriminations were settled and the duo resolved their differences. The precise design of the shield attached to the trophy on the reverse follows that of the slightly earlier denarius of the propraetorian legate, C. Flav. Hemic. (Crawford 504/1), which was struck at a mobile military mint travelling with Brutus in Lycia while he was subjecting the cities of Xanthus and Patara, as does the change in form of Brutus' name and title from proconsul to imperator. The head of Libertas, the personification of individual freedom and whose name had served as the watchword during the first Battle of Philippi, is ideally paired with the trophy and arms of the reverse, and was the principal theme of the Republican's coinage. The design includes the name of the legate responsible for the coinage, Marcus Servilius, who had personally served in Lycia campaigns and was perhaps present at the fall of both Xanthus and Patara. One highly unusual aspect of this issue, which consists of both aurei and denarii, is that while by no means common, the aurei are considerably more plentiful than the denarii, of which just a handful are known.



- 20 *M. Iunius Brutus with L. Plaetorius Caestianus*. Denarius, Northern Greece circa 43-42, AR 3.51 g. BRVT IMP – L·PLAET·CEST Bare head of Brutus r. Rev. EID·MAR Pileus between two daggers. C 15. Babelon Junia 52 and Plaetoria 13. Sydenham 1301. Sear Imperatores 216. Kent-Hirmer pl. 27, 98. Cahn, *EIDibus MARTiis*, Q. Tic. 18, 1989, 22d (these dies). RBW –. Crawford 508/3.

Very rare and in exceptional condition for this issue of tremendous importance and fascination. A bold portrait perfectly struck and centred on a very

broad flan. Good extremely fine

275'000

Privately purchased through Antiqua from CNG and Jonathan Kern.

I started this collection in the early 1990's. At that time I always knew I wanted an EID MAR in the collection. I had begun working with Steve Rubinger and asked him to keep an eye out for me and let me know if he ever saw one he thought would be a good fit for my collection. I had asked him about several that came up for auction and he always advised against them for one reason or another. Then one day out of the blue he called and told me he had found the EID MAR that I needed to buy. This was that coin. MSG.

Perhaps no coin of antiquity is as familiar, or as important, as the 'Eid Mar' denarius of Brutus: its dagger-flanked liberty cap and explicit inscription are a simple and direct monument of one of the great events in western history. This type is so remarkable that, unlike the anonymous mass of ancient coinage, it elicited commentary from the ancient historian Dio Cassius (XLVII.25). The murder of the dictator Julius Caesar in the Senate House on the Ides of March, 44 B.C., is one of the major turning points in western history. It is impossible to know how the Roman world would have changed had Caesar not been murdered on that day, but the prospect certainly taxes the imagination. Caesar was a populist and an opportunist bent upon dismantling the traditional arrangement of senatorial authority that concentrated power in the hands of the ancient and elite families. In the minds of Brutus and his fellow conspirators, theirs was a struggle to maintain the traditional hold on power, and with that aim they struck down Caesar. This class struggle was couched in the terms of the ancient form of Republican government, and of Rome's hatred for kings and autocrats; thus it is no surprise that the two leaders, Brutus and Cassius, follow the twin-symmetry of the two consuls, and even of Castor and Pollux, the mythical saviors of Rome. The designs are worth visiting individually, in detail. The reverse testifies to the murder of Caesar by naming the date of the event, by showing daggers as the instruments of delivery, and by displaying the pileus, or freedman's cap, which symbolizes the professed goal of the assassins' work. Though dozens of men were involved in the plot against Caesar, all are represented by only two daggers – a clear allusion to Brutus and Cassius as leaders of the coup and, subsequently, of the armed opposition to Antony and Octavian. The portrait is also of great interest and importance. The only securely identifiable portraits of Brutus occur on coins naming him imperator: the Eid Mar denarii of Plaetorius Cestianus and the aurei of Servilius Casca and Pedanius Costa. Indeed, all other portraits on coins or other media are identified based upon these three issues. S. Nodelman has made careful study of the Eid Mar series from the art-historical view, and H. A. Cahn has similarly done so from the numismatic perspective. The former has divided Brutus' inscribed coin portraits into three main categories: a 'baroque' style portrait on the aurei of Casca, a 'neoclassical' style on the aurei of Costa, and a 'realistic' style on the Eid Mar denarii of Cestianus. Nodelman describes the Eid Mar portraits as "the soberest and most precise" of all, and he divides them into two distinct categories, 'plastic' and 'linear', suggesting both were derived from the same sculptural prototype.



21



- 21 *M. Antonius and P. Clodius*. Denarius 42, AR 3.63 g. M·ANTONIVS – III·VIR·R·P·C· Bearded head of M. Antony r. Rev. P. CLODIV[S] – M·F· Mars naked but for helmet standing facing, holding spear in r. hand and sword in scabbard in l. C 72. Babelon Clodia 19 and Antonia 20. Sydenham 1121. Sear Imperators 148. RBW –. Crawford 494/17.

Extremely rare and among the finest specimens known of this very difficult issue.

A superb portrait of fine style and an enchanting old cabinet tone, insignificant area of weakness on obverse, otherwise good extremely fine

30'000

Ex Adolph Cahn & Adolph Hess Nachf., 17 July 1933, Haeblerlin, 2922; Munzhandlung Basel 8, 1937, 518; Glendining's, 19 August 1950, Platt Hall, 674 and UBS 78, 2008, 112 sales.

This is a recent purchase from Ed Waddell. I had already been contemplating selling my collection when Ed presented me this coin. I was so glad it became a part of my collection. Easily the most attractive Marc Antony I have ever seen. This is a wonder coin in my opinion. And take a look at the provenance.... MSG.

This particularly fine denarius of the bearded Mark Antony was struck by the moneyer, P. Clodius, son of Marcus, of whom no mention is made in history. He struck coins for the deified Julius Caesar, Mark Antony and Octavian, all of which share the same reverse type depicting the god of war, Mars, armed and ready for battle. Coins in Clodius' name bearing Caesar's portrait are truly exceptional, having realistic features that typify the best of Caesar's lifetime issues. This coin, depicting the Antony with a slight beard, expresses the triumvir's grief over the assassination of his patron. All of these coins were struck in preparation for the upcoming contest of power with the republican forces under Brutus and Cassius in the east.



22

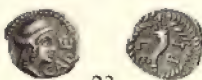


- 22 *M. Aemilius Lepidus and C. Caesar Octavianus*. Denarius, Italy 42, AR 3.80 g. LEPIDVS·PONT·MAX – III·V·R·P·C Bare head of M. Lepidus r. Rev. CAESAR·IMP (ligate)·III· – VIR·R·P·C Bare head of Octavian r. Babelon Aemilia 35 and Julia 71. C 2. Sydenham 1323a. Sear Imperators 140. Woytek Arma et Nummi p. 558. Crawford 495/2a.

Very rare and among the finest specimens known. Struck on unusually fine metal and with a magnificent old cabinet tone. Minor areas of weakness, otherwise about extremely fine

15'000

Ex Baldwin's 55, 2008, EJW Hildyard, 2004 and Triton XVI, 2013, 965 sales.



23



- 23 *Lepidus*. Obol, Cabellio circa 44-42, AR 0.32 g. CABE Head of Apollo r. Rev. LE – PI Cornucopiae; all within wreath. Blanchet p. 439 and pl. III, 23. Sear Imperators 491. RBW –. RPC 528.

Rare and in exceptional condition for the issue. Struck on very fresh metal and with a lovely old cabinet tone, about extremely fine

1'250

Ex NAC sale 29, 2005, 404.

A fun little coin! How did these ever not get lost before spending? MSG.



24



- 24 *Marcus Antonius, C. Caesar Octavianus and L. Gellius*. Denarius, mint moving with Mark Antony 41, AR 3.93 g. M·ANT·IMP·AVG III VIR·R·P·C·L·GELL·Q·P· Head of M. Antony r.; behind, jug. Rev. CAESAR·IMP·PONT·III·VIR·R·P·C· Head of Octavian r.; behind, *lituus*. Babelon Antonia 54 and Gellia 8. C 10. Sydenham 1188. Sear Imperators 250. RBW 1800. Crawford 517/8.

Very rare. Lightly toned, an almost invisible metal flaw on obverse, otherwise extremely fine

4'000

Ex SKA Bern 7, 1987, 769 and NAC 73, 2013, Student and His Mentor part II, 253 sales.

The Marc Antony & Octavian portrait coin series is rather extensive. The large head coins are much more common and not nearly as attractive, in my opinion, as these smaller head issues. This is a particularly nice example with two strong portraits of excellent style. MSG.



25



25

- 25 Denarius, Southern Spain 44, AR 3.72 g. SEX MAGN PIVS – IMP – B Bare head of Cnaeus Pompeius r. Rev. PIETAS Pietas standing l., holding palm branch and transverse sceptre. Babelon Pompeia 18. C 12. Sydenham 1042 var. Sear Imperators 232. Woytek Arma et Nummi p. 558. Buttrey, NC 1960, I and pl. V, 3 and pl. VI, D. RBW 1669. Crawford 477/1a.

Very rare and in exceptional condition for the issue. Possibly the finest specimen known.

Struck on unusually fresh metal for the issue and with a light iridescent tone.

Reverse slightly off-centre, otherwise about extremely fine

7'500

Privately purchased from Harlan J Berk at the NYINC in 2010.

One of the toughest of the Sextus Pompey issues and among the finest known survivors. A tough coin in great condition. MSG.



- 26 *Cn. Domitius Ahenobarbus*. Denarius, mint moving with Ahenobarbus in 41, AR 3.95 g. AHENOBAR Male head r., slightly bearded. Rev. CN·DOMITIVS IMP Trophy with two spears and shield standing facing on prow r. Babelon Domitia 21. Sydenham 1177. Sear Imperators 339. RBW 1803. Crawford 519/2. Rare. Struck on a very broad flan and with a lovely iridescent tone, extremely fine 4'500

Ex Lanz 72, 1995, 447 and Tkalec October 2003, 210 sales.



- 27 *Marcus Antonius, Lucius Antonius and L. Cocceius Nerva*. Denarius, mint moving with Marcus Antonius 41, AR 3.77 g. M·ANT·IMP·AVG III VIR·R·P·C·M NERVA PROQ·P Bare head of Marcus Antonius r. Rev. L·ANTONIVS COS Bare head of Lucius Antonius r. Babelon Antonia 48 and Cocceia 2. C 2. Sydenham 1185. Sear Imperators 246. RBW 1799. Crawford 517/5a.

Very rare and possibly the finest specimen known of this extremely difficult issue. Perfectly struck and centred on an exceptionally fresh metal.

Light iridescent tone and good extremely fine 12'500

Ex NAC sale 40, 2007, 617. Privately purchased from Freeman & Sear at the NYINC in 2008.

Probably the finest of this type I have seen. Rob Freeman had a good eye for quality and over the years when he was active I was able to buy several really nice pieces from him. MSG.



- 28 Denarius, mint moving with M. Antony 41, AR 3.90 g. M·ANT·IMP·AVG·III·VIR·R·P·C·M BARBAT·Q·P Head of M. Antony r. Rev. CAESAR·IMP·PONT·III·VIR·R·P·C Head of Octavian r. with slight beard. Babelon Antonia 51, Julia 96 and Barbatia 2. C 8. Sydenham 1181. Sear Imperators 243. Crawford 517/2. Light iridescent tone and extremely fine 2'000

Ex Helios sale 5, 2010, 200.



- 29 *Marcus Antonius, Lucius Antonius and M. Cocceius Nerva.* Aureus, mint moving with Mark Anthony circa 41, AV 8.04 g. M·ANT·IMP·AVG III VIR·R·P·C·M·NERVA PROQ·P Bare head of Mark Anthony r. Rev. L·ANTONIVS COS Bare head of Lucius Antonius r. Babelon Antonia 47 and Cocceia 1. C 1. Sydenham 1184. Bahrfeldt 80 (two specimens listed: London and Naples). Mazzini 1 (this coin). Banti II, p. 139, 1 (this coin illustrated). Sear Imperators 245. RBW -. Crawford 517/4a.

Of the highest rarity, only the third specimen known of this variety and the only one in private hands. Two very attractive portraits struck on a full flan. Very fine

40'000

Ex NAC 33, 2006, 388; NAC 41, 2007, 33 and Antiqua XVI, 2011, 87 sales; From the Mazzini Collection.

This aureus, depicting the bare heads of Marc Antony and his youngest brother Lucius Antony, is a rare dual-portrait issue of the Imperial period. The family resemblance is uncanny, and one wonders if they truly looked this much alike, or if it is another case of portrait fusion, much like we observe with the dual-portrait billon tetradrachms of Antioch on which the face of the Egyptian queen Cleopatra VII takes on the square dimensions of Marc Antony. When Antony fled Rome to separate himself from Octavian and to take up his governorship in Gaul, Lucius went with him, and suffered equally from the siege of Mutina. This coin, however, was struck in a later period, when Lucius had for a second time taken up arms against Octavian in the west. Marc Antony was already in the east, and that is the region from which this coinage emanates. Since Lucius lost the 'Perusine War' he waged against Octavian, and subsequently was appointed to an office in Spain, where he died, it is likely that he never even saw one of his portrait coins.



- 30 *C. Caesar Octavianus.* Denarius, mint moving with Octavian 41, AR 3.95 g. C·CAESAR·III·VIR·R·P·C Head of Octavian r. Rev. Equestrian statue galloping l.; in exergue and on r., POPVL·IVSSV. Babelon Julia 97. C 227. Sydenham 1317. Sear Imperators 299. RBW 1802. Crawford 518/2.

Very rare and in unusually fine condition for the issue. Wonderful old cabinet tone, weakly struck, as usual, on obverse, otherwise extremely fine

1'750

Ex Gemini sale VI, 2010, 422.

This is a recreation of Octavian's first coinage showing the equestrian statue "awarded" to him by the Roman senate. See lot 16 above. MSG.



- 31 *T. Sempronius Graccus*. Denarius 40 or later, AR 3.81 g. Laureate head of J. Caesar r. Rev. TI·SEMPRONIVS *Vexillum, aquila*, plough and decempe; in field, S – C. To l., [Q·DESIG] and below, GRACCVS. Babelon Julia 126 and Sempronia 11. C 48. Sydenham 1128. Sear Imperators 327. RBW –. Crawford 525/3.

Very rare and in exceptional condition for the issue. A very attractive portrait struck on a very broad flan, good extremely fine 18'000
Ex NAC 52, 2009, 298 and NAC 78, 2014, 765 sales.

A great coin that I let get away when NAC 78 came up. I didn't let it pass a second time. Really a stunning portrait type for Julius Caesar. MSG.



- 32 *Marcus Antonius and Octavia*. Cistophoric tetradrachm, Ephesus (?) 39, AR 11.35 g. M·ANTONIVS·IMP·COS·DESIG·ITER ET·TERT Jugate busts of Mark Antony and Octavia r. Rev. III·VIR – R·P·C·Bacchus standing l. on *cista mistica* between two interlaced snakes with heads erect. Babelon Antonia 61. C 3. Sydenham 1198. Sear Imperators 263. RPC 2202.

Struck on a very broad flan and with a lovely old cabinet tone. Minor porosity on reverse, otherwise about extremely fine 2'500
Ex Bankhaus H. Aufhäuser 7, 1990, 336 and Ira & Larry Goldberg 69, 2012, 3481 sales.

The marriage of Mark Antony and Octavia occurred to seal the pact made by Antony and Octavian at Brundisium in 42 B.C. The year before, Antony had commenced a liaison with Cleopatra VII, the Ptolemaic queen of Egypt. During his dalliance, his wife Fulvia died. When Antony returned to Rome, he married the sister of Octavian who bore him two daughters. Later Antony abandoned Octavia and returned to Cleopatra, with whom he had three more children. Antony and Cleopatra committed suicide together in 30 B.C., and Octavia raised all 5 children. Rare in this quality. MSG.



- 33 *C. Caesar Octavianus and Marcus Antonius*. Quinarius, mint moving with Octavian 39, AR 1.83 g. III·VIR – R·P·C Diademed head of Concordia r. Rev. M·ANTON·C·CAESAR Two hands clasped around caduceus. Babelon Antonia 42. Sydenham 1195. C 67. Sear Imperators 304a var. King 81. RBW 1818. Crawford 529/4b.

Rare and in unusually fine condition for the issue. Lovely old cabinet tone, minor graffiti on reverse, otherwise extremely fine / about extremely fine 1'000
Ex CNG 50, 1999, 1357 and Helios 4, 2009, A. Lynn, 190 sales.



- 34 *Octavianus and M. Vipsanius Agrippa*. Denarius, mint moving with Octavian 38, AR 4.16 g. DIVOS IVLIVS – DIVI·F Confronted heads of Julius Caesar, wreathed r., and Octavian, bareheaded l. Rev. M·AGRIPPA·COS / DESIG. Babelon Julia 129 and Vipsania 2. C 5. Sydenham 1330. Sear Imperators 306. RBW –. Crawford 534/2.

Very rare and in exceptional condition for the issue. Two magnificent portraits
and an enchanting old cabinet tone, extremely fine

65'000

Ex Brüder Egger 43, 1913, Herzfelder, 53; Ars Classica 18, 1938, de Sartiges, 20; M&M 43, 1970, 257; Sternberg 1, 1973, 31; M&M 66, 1984, 499 and NAC 70, 2013, Student and His Mentor part I, 195 sales.

The provenance on this coin is really terrific. It is such a tough coin and in spectacular condition. Worthy of being in the finest collection! MSG.

Few great leaders in history have had an ally as capable and reliable as Marcus Agrippa (a close second in Roman history is Diocletian's colleague Maximian). In many respects, Agrippa was the bricks-and-mortar of Octavian-Augustus' career: not only did he help build it, but he was perpetually relied upon to maintain it, even to the point of creating potential heirs to Augustus' throne through his marriage to Augustus' daughter Julia. On this denarius, struck at a mint moving with Octavian in 38 B.C., the obverse honours Octavian (in the portrait and in the inscription) and the deified father Julius Caesar (in the portrait and in the inscription), while the reverse is entirely devoted to Agrippa. Except for the copper asses struck in Agrippa's name long after his death, and certain provincial coinages (such as the massive issues of Nemausus), there were only two occasions in which Imperial coins were struck for Agrippa. This denarius belongs to the first issue in which three types were struck. Each has the common feature of Agrippa's inscription on the reverse, and their obverses differ in that Julius Caesar is portrayed on the aureus and the head of Octavian or the confronted heads of Caesar and Octavian appear on the denarii.



35



35

- 35 *C. Caesar Octavianus*. Bronze, Italy 38, Æ 18.49 g. CAESAR – DIVI·F Bare head of Octavian r. Rev. DIVOS – IVLIVS Laureate head of Julius Caesar r. Babelon Julia 98. C 3. Sydenham 1335. RPC 620. Alföldi-Giardi, Quaderni Ticinesi XIII, 27 (these dies). Sear Imperators 308. RBW 1822. Crawford 535/1.

Rare and in exceptional condition for the issue, undoubtedly among the finest specimens known. Two superb portraits of fine style and a lovely olive green patina, usual adjusting marks, otherwise good extremely fine / extremely fine

20'000

Ex Antiqua sale VIII, 2000, 5.

This is a great coin and in all my collecting days I have never seen one better, or even come close, to the quality of this piece. If someone asked me to pick the ten best coins in the collection this would likely be one of them. I have never seen a better Julius Caesar portrait in bronze. MSG.



36

- 36 *C. Caesar Octavianus*. Bronze, Italy circa 38, Æ 17.12 g. DIVI·F Bare head of Octavian r., below chin, eight-rayed star. Rev. DIVOS / IVLIVS within wreath. Babelon Julia 101. Sydenham 1336. Alföldi-Giardi, Quaderni Ticinesi. XIII, 43. Sear Imperators 309. RPC 621. RBW -. Crawford 538/3.

An attractive portrait and a wonderful light green patina, about extremely fine / extremely fine

4'000

Ex NAC 40, May 2007, 623 and NAC 73, 2013, Student and His Mentor part II, 270 sales.



37

- 37 *Marcus Antonius*. Denarius, mint moving with M. Antony 32-31, AR 3.78 g. ANT AVG – III·VIR·R·P·C Galley r., with sceptre tied with fillet on prow. Rev. LEG – VII *Aquila* between two standards. Babelon Antonia 113. C 34. Sydenham 1224. Sear Imperators 357. Crawford 544/20.

Well struck and centred on a full flan and with a lovely old cabinet tone, good extremely fine

2'000

Privately purchased from Freeman & Sear.

About as nice as any legionary denarii that I have ever seen. Perfectly centered and virtually as struck. MSG.

The Roman Empire

The mint is Roma unless otherwise stated

Octavian, 32 – 29 BC



- 38 Denarius, Brundisium or Roma 32-29 BC, AR 3.74 g. Bare head r. Rev. CAESAR – DIVI-F Pax, draped, standing l., holding olive branch and cornucopiae. C 69. BMC 605. RIC 252. Sear Imperators 399. CBN 27. Very rare and possibly the finest specimen known. An absolutely spectacular portrait in the finest style of the period. Lovely light iridescent tone, virtually as struck and almost Fdc 15'000

Ex NAC sale 23, 2002, 1448. Privately purchased from Freeman and Sear.

If I was going to build a new collection of 12 Caesars in silver this would be one of the coins I would start with. Simply put, of all the great denarii I have owned of Octavian/Augustus, this coin stands alone for quality and artistic merit. MSG.



- 39 Denarius, Brundisium or Roma 29-27 BC, AR 3.65 g. Bare head r. Rev. IMP – CAESAR Trophy set on prow; at base, prow and anchor in saltire. C 119. BMC 625. RIC 265a. Sear Imperators 419. CBN 57. Wonderful old cabinet tone and good extremely fine 4'000

Ex Tkalec sale February 2002, 120.

A neat coin related to the battle of Actium where Octavian and Agrippa defeated Antony and Cleopatra. MSG.



- 40 Denarius, Brundisium and Rome (?) circa 32-29 BC, AR 3.76 g. Bare head r. Rev. CAESAR – DIVI F Victory standing l. on globe, holding palm branch and wreath. C 65. BMC 602. Sear Imperators 406. RIC 255. CBN 35. Wonderful iridescent tone and extremely fine / good extremely fine 3'500

Ex Roma Numismatics sale I, 2010, 266.

This coin type is one I referred to many times while doing presentations. The reverse image of Victory atop the globe clearly shows that the ancient Greeks and Romans were well aware that the world was round. Here the clear implication is that Augustus is victorious over the world. And for good measure, this coin is in a superb state of preservation with all detail present. MSG.



- 41 Denarius, Brundisium or Roma 32-29 BC, AR 3.81 g. Diademed bust of Victory r. Rev. CAESAR – DIVI F Neptune, naked but cloak over shoulders, standing l. with r. foot on globe, holding sceptre and aplustre. C 60. BMC 615. Sear Imperators 409. RIC 256. CBN 12. Superb old cabinet tone and extremely fine 2'000

Ex M&M 81, 1995, 151; Künker 124, 2007, 8584 and NAC 64, 2012, 995 sales. From the Alberto Campana collection.

A related reverse design to the previous piece, only here Victory is replaced by Neptune – relating to the battle of Actium victory. MSG.



- 42 Denarius, Brundisium and Roma (?) circa 29-27 BC, AR 3.87 g. Bare head r. Rev. IMP CAESAR on architrave of temple with colonnaded base: Victory on globe and apex on pediment and warriors at the corners. C 122. BMC 631. RIC 266. Sear Imperators 421. CBN 52. Lovely old cabinet tone and about extremely fine 2'500

Ex New York Sale V, 2003, 253. From the Estate of Dr R. Alexander Rochester.

The senate house was burned to the ground after the assassination of Julius Caesar. Octavian had the chambers rebuilt and this coin defines that achievement. The building still stands in the Roman forum. MSG.



- 43 Cistophoric tetradrachm, Ephesus Ioniae 28 BC. AR 26.70 g. IMP CAESAR DIVI F COS VI LIBERTATIS P R VINDEX Laureate head r. Rev. PAX Pax standing l. on *parazonium* (?), holding caduceus; behind, snake emerging from *cista mystica*. All within laurel wreath. C 218. BMC 691. RIC 476. Sear Imperators 433. CBN 908. RPC 2203. Sutherland group I, O17/R-.

Lovely tone and about extremely fine 3'500

Ex Gorny & Mosch 133, 2004, 314 and NAC 64, 2012, 1006 sales. From the Nicolas and Alberto Campana collections.



- 44 Denarius, Brundisium or Roma 29-27 BC. AR 3.72 g. Laureate head of Apollo r. Rev. Octavian, veiled and laureate, holding whip and ploughing with yoke of oxen to r.; in exergue, IMP CAESAR. C 117. BMC 638. RIC 272. Sear Imperators 424. CBN 92. Light iridescent tone and good extremely fine 3'000

Ex NAC sale 23, 2002, 1453. From the Alberto Campana collection.

This issue is related to the foundation of new cities/towns necessary to settle the Roman troops after the long civil war. The perimeter of such locations was defined by plowing a border line around the new region. This was one of the great challenges facing Octavian as he needed to fulfill the promises to all the soldiers who were retiring after years of protracted service. The simple design of this coin understates the tremendous importance of this achievement. Not only did Octavian meet the promises made to the troops but he spread Roman settlements throughout the empire. It really was one of his finer acts at this time. MSG.



- 45 Denarius, Brundisium or Roma 28. AR 4.03 g. CAESAR – COS VI Bare head r.; behind, *lituus*. Rev. AEGVPTO / CAPTA Crocodile advancing r. C 2. BMC 650. RIC 275a. Sear Imperators 430. CBN 905 (Ephesus). Very rare. A superb portrait and a wonderful old cabinet tone, reverse slightly off-centre, otherwise good extremely fine 6'000

Ex UBS 78, 2008, 1230. Privately purchased from Münzhaltung Basel.

I also owned two pieces from this important issue – the first appearing in the first part of my collection. This coin, although with an off-centre reverse, has the best preserved crocodile that I had seen and I felt it was worth the effort to add it to the collection. Virtually mint state, note that the forelegs of the crocodile are both still fully formed as engraved and intended. Really a stunningly beautiful piece. MSG.

Octavian, as Augustus 27 BC – 14 AD



- 46 Cistophoric tetradrachm, Pergamum circa 27-26 BC, AR 12.08 g. IMP CAESAR Bare head l.; before, *lituus*. Rev. AVGV – STVS Six bunched corn ears. C 32. RIC 490. BMC 700 var. CBN 953. RPC 2209. Sutherland group IIIg obv. O5/R rev. –.

Rare and in unusually fine condition for the issue. Wonderful
old cabinet tone and extremely fine

7'500

Ex M&M 8, 1949, 886; Sternberg XVIII, 1986, 406; NFA XXVI, 1991, 205 and Triton XI, 2008, Richard Pridaux, 676 sales.

While this is the most common of the cistophori types of Augustus, this piece is almost mint state with full wheat ear detail throughout other than the slightest weakness in the right ear. Pergamum was known to have produced the more realistic portrait styles (versus Ephesus, the other city to strike these issues). This portrait is terrific. Really a nice example for the series. MSG.



- 47 Cistophoric tetradrachm, Pergamum (?) 27-26 BC, AR 12.03 g. IMP-CAESAR Bare head r. Rev. AVGVSTVS Capricorn r. with cornucopiae; all within laurel wreath. C 16 var. (different positioning of obverse legend). BMC –. RIC 493. Sutherland Group IV, O5/R–. CBN –. RPC 2211.

Very rare and in exceptional condition for the issue. Struck in high relief and with a
lovely old cabinet tone. Minor areas of weakness, otherwise good extremely fine

12'500

Ex Heritage sale 3015, 2011, 23287. From the Rubicon Collection.

Although this issue is only slightly less common than that the last lot, it is tough to find in great condition. Slightly softly struck at the lower right reverse but still with a fully defined Capricorn. And the obverse portrait is terrific. Tough to find this issue much better. MSG.



48

- 48 Sestertius, Pergamum circa 25 BC, Æ 25.44 g. AVGVSTVS Bare head r. Rev. CA within laurel wreath. C 791. BMC 713. RIC 501. Howego, NC 1982, Class 2 (Commune Asiae). CBN 953. RPC 2233.

Dark green patina, usual minor areas of weakness, otherwise good very fine

1'500

Privately purchased Tom Cederlind 2008 NYINC

The mint attribution of this sestertius as well as other "CA" coinage, has long been the subject of debate among scholars. The coins circulated in Asia and also in Cyprus and Northern Syria. However, the meaning of the CA has always remained ambiguous and the range of styles associated with this CA coinage make mint attribution problematic. As discussed in RPC Vol. 1, pages 380-381, the CA was initially thought to represent either the mint Caesaraugusta in Spain or Caesarea in Judaea, however other interpretations include Commune Asiae (as put forth by Howego), Caesar Augustus or Caesaris Auctoritate. Was the CA an indication of the mint or Commune Asiae or an ethnic relating to the emperor? RPC points out that both cases are possible and mentions potential imitations of the ethnic at both Sardis and Cyprus which could support each possibility respectively. Perhaps the fact that the only other reverse type is AVGVSTVS in a wreath makes it more likely that the CA relates to the emperor. The authors of RPC express a slight preference for Caesar Augustus while emphasising the inconclusiveness of interpretations to-date.



49

- 49 As, uncertain mint in Asia circa 25 BC, Æ 11.13 g. CAESAR Bare head r.. Rev. AVGVSTVS within laurel wreath tied at bottom. C 34. BMC 731. RIC 486. CBN 965. RPC 2235.

Dark brown-green patina, an almost invisible metal flaw on neck truncation, otherwise extremely fine

750

Privately purchased from David Vagi in 2008 at the NYINC.

A cool little coin. A great portrait of Augustus. MSG.



50

50

- 50 Cistophoric tetradrachm, Ephesus 24-20 BC, AR 12.00 g. IMP – CAE – SAR Bare head r. Rev. AVGVSTVS Garlanded altar decorated with two confronting hinds. C 33. BMC 694. Sutherland Group VI, O 126 – R 372a. RIC 482. CBN 926. RPC 2215.

Lovely old cabinet tone and about extremely fine / good very fine

2'500

Privately purchased from Freeman & Sear.

Continuing with the cistophori series this piece, from Ephesus, also comes up with some regularity. What is important about this particular specimen is the portrait style. Although the head is somewhat severe the portrait is still very realistic. I believe a master engraver was sent to Ephesus to assist with the engraving of these new coins as part of the "Romanization" of the eastern empire. The Greek celators, who clearly had not been used to engraving portraits, quickly showed their lack of talent and the portrait styles of Ephesus are totally lacking in artistic merit. This piece has a particularly attractive portrait and this coin is rare as such. The reverse relates to Artemis, Goddess of Ephesus, who among her many attributes was "goddess of the hunt" and hence the image of the facing deer on this coin. MSG.



- 51 Denarius, Colonia Patricia (?) c. 20-19 BC, AR 3.75 g. Laureate head r. Rev. FORT RED / CAES AVG / S·P·Q·R inscribed on rectangular altar. C 104. BMC 359a. RIC 54a note. CBN 1345 (Nemausus).
Very rare. Good very fine 1'250

Ex Helios sale 1, 2008, 409.



- 52 Aureus, Colonia Caesaraugusta 19 BC, AV 7.81 g. Oak-wreathed head l. Rev. FORT RED / CAES AVG / S·P·Q·R inscribed on rectangular altar. C 105. BMC 360 note (Colonia Patricia). RIC 53b note (Colonia Patricia). CBN 1343 (Nemausus) and cf. 1351 (for style). Calicó 200. SNR Firenze vol. I, 19 (these dies).
An exceedingly rare variety with the oak-wreath of an extremely rare type. A very interesting and unusual portrait of Augustus struck in high relief, good very fine 40'000

Ex Triton sale XI, 2008, Richard Prideaux, 746.

A tough coin in gold and very nice for the issue. MSG.

The legend inscribed on the side of the altar of this handsome aureus, FORT RED CAES AVG S P Q R, commemorates the dedication of the altar to Fortuna Redux that was awarded by the senate and people in Augustus' honour upon his return to the city in 19 B.C. Augustus' health was never robust, he was often sickly, and this altar which was set up near the gate through which the emperor returned expresses vows for his continued good health.

The attribution of this issue has been much discussed by scholars. In the catalogue of the British Museum, Mattingly attributed the issue to the mint of Colonia Patricia while Le Gentilomme attributed the issue to Nemausus on the grounds of the discovery of a bronze die in that location. The latter's attribution was accepted by Grant in "Roman Imperial Money" (pp. 42-43) and Giard in his work on the catalogue of France's Bibliothèque Nationale; however, in the revised version of RIC Vol. I, Sutherland adopts Mattingly's attribution. We personally feel that an attribution to a Spanish mint is most logical and thus adhere to the theory originally put forth by Mattingly and Lanfranchi. Nevertheless, we maintain that in reality there are two distinct issues for this type: one for the mint of Colonia Caesaraugusta and one for Colonia Patricia. The aurei and denarii ascribable to Colonia Caesaraugusta can be distinguished from those of Colonia Patricia by the very different portrait style. Furthermore, in our opinion it is evident on this coin that the wreath worn by the emperor is composed of oak leaves rather than laurel which would support the notion that this is indeed a Colonia Caesaraugusta issue.



- 53 Denarius, Colonia Patricia circa 19 BC, AR 3.91 g. CAESAR – AVGVSTVS Bare head r. Rev. OB / CIVIS / SERVATOS within wreath. C 208. BMC 378. RIC 77a. CBN 1154.
Light iridescent tone and extremely fine 2'000
Ex Nomos sale 2, 2010, 167.



- 54 Denarius, Colonia Patricia circa 19 BC, AR 3.78 g. CAESAR – AVGVSTVS Bare head r. Rev. OB CIVIS / SERVATOS above and below wreath surrounding shield inscribed S·P·Q·R / CL·V. C 215. BMC 381. RIC 79a. CBN 1144.
Wonderful iridescent tone and extremely fine 4'500
Ex Hirsch 26 April 1954, 155 and UBS 78, 2008, 191 sales.



- 55 Denarius, Caesaraugusta (?) circa 19-18 BC, AR 3.86 g. Oak-wreathed head l. Rev. CAESAR / AVGVSTVS Two laurel branches. C 48. BMC 318. RIC 33b. CBN 1285.
A bold portrait and a magnificent iridescent tone, good extremely fine 7'500

Privately purchased from Ed Waddell.

This is a great portrait of Augustus on a tougher type. Really a pretty coin. MSG.



- 56 Denarius, Colonia Patricia circa 19 BC, AR 3.56 g. CAESAR AVGVSTVS Bare head r. Rev. SP – QR Victory flying r. holding wreath above shield inscribed CL·V and leaning against column. C 289. RIC 95. BMC 405. CBN 1121. Rare and in exceptional condition for the issue. A very attractive portrait and a pleasant old cabinet tone, good extremely fine 4'000

Privately purchased from Freeman & Sear.

This is a wonderful example of this very difficult issue. Certainly among the finest known. I placed this coin in this auction because I think it is a great companion piece to the aureus below. This is a special coin worthy of the finest collection! MSG.



- 57 Aureus, Caesaraugusta 19-18 BC, AV 7.88 g. AVGVSTVS Bare head r. Rev. S·P· – Q·R Victory facing, head l., holding before her a round shield inscribed CL·V. Bahrfeldt –, C –, BMC –, RIC –, cf. 62. CBN –, cf. 1092. Leu sale 87, 2003, I. Calicó 287.

Of the highest rarity, apparently only the third specimen known. A superb portrait perfectly struck and centered in high relief and a very interesting reverse type. An unobtrusive mark on lower reverse field, otherwise virtually as struck and almost Fdc

60'000

Ex NAC sale 8, 1995, 774 and Triton XI, 2008, Prideaux, 749 sales.

There are only two additional specimens known of this extremely rare coin of Augustus: the coin which is illustrated in Calicó (no. 287), and another that was sold in Stack's December 3, 1996 Sale of the Michael J. Price Collection. All are remarkably well preserved and are produced from the same obverse and reverse dies as our coin. Additionally, all three coins also have a small M or Σ stamped on them in the field of the reverse, and which is occasionally encountered on other coins of Augustus (see, for instance, Triton XI, 2008, 761, an aureus of Augustus from Emerita in a similar state of preservation, also depicting the *clipeus virtutis* on the reverse). The inescapable conclusion is that all of these aurei must have originated from a single source. Whether that source was a collection (in the Triton sale it was postulated that the small stamp on the coins is an "owner's mark") where the coins were accumulated at different times and from different sources, or whether the coins all originated from the same find, is unfortunately not known. Our coin has sales provenances going back into the mid-1990s: the specimen illustrated in Calicó first appeared at auction in 1989, and the other aureus mentioned above exhibiting the same stamp on the reverse also appeared at auction in the mid-1990s.

Before Augustus visited Lugdunum in 16 B.C. and established the principal imperial mint for precious metal coinage there, there were several imperial mints operating in Spain. Although there is still much that is unknown about these mints, based on stylistic and also historical grounds, it appears that there were at least two, possibly even three, and that they were most likely located at the important Roman centers of Emerita and Tarraco. The themes presented on the reverses of these Spanish issues are typically military in nature – just as on the coin offered here which boasts of Augustus's victory over Mark Antony and Cleopatra at Actium by way of the *clipeus virtutis*, the golden shield of valor awarded to the emperor in 26 B.C. by a most grateful and somewhat sycophantic Roman senate – which is no wonder considering that Spain hosted four legions at this time. The great abundance of Imperial gold and silver issues from Spanish mints at this time was due to the many gold and silver mines conveniently located throughout the province.



- 58 Denarius, Colonia Patricia circa 19 BC. AR 3.86 g. CAESAR – AVGVSTVS Bare head r. Rev. SIGNIS / RECEPTIS Standard on l. and Aquila on r. flanking, S – P / Q – R arranged around shield inscribed CL V. C –. BMC 422. RIC 87a. CBN 1141. Light iridescent tone and about extremely fine 1'000

Ex Gemini sale IV, 2008, 387.

This piece is also an issue I had two of – see NAC 86, lot 57. The historical significance of the issue related to the return of the Parthian standards adds to the allure of the piece. It's difficult to find with the "CL V" fully formed on the shield. Really a neat little coin. MSG.



- 59 Denarius, Colonia Patricia circa 19 BC. AR 3.76 g. CAESAR – AVGVSTVS Bare head r. Rev. MARTIS – VLTORIS Round domed tetrastyle temple within which stands Mars helmeted and cloaked standing l. holding *Aquila* in r. hand and trophy over l. shoulder. C 205. BMC p. 65 note *. RIC 72. CBN 1104. Rare and in exceptional condition for the issue. A bold portrait and a superb old cabinet tone, an unobtrusive metal flaw on reverse, otherwise good extremely fine 5'000

Ex Bourgey 25-26 March 1974, 129 and Lanz 94, 1999, Benz, 51 sales.

This is a really nice coin for this very historically important type. The returned Roman standards long held by the Parthians were placed in the temple of Mars Ultor (Mars the Avenger). I have also written, for the Celator, about this subject. The temple to Mars Ultor was promised by Augustus in 19 BC but was actually only dedicated in 2 BC. That temple, whose foundation still exists in the forum of Augustus, is rectangular in shape. Here the temple is clearly shown as a round structure. Speculation as to whether this was a temporary home for the standards is mixed with the possibility that the original temple design envisioned by Augustus may have been round but was later changed to fit into the location where it was built. In either case we know the final resting place for the returned standards was a temple with a rectangular base. This temple would become the departure point for Roman troops departing for battle after proper prayers/sacrifices were completed. MSG.



- 60 Cistophoric tetradrachm, Pergamum (?) 19-18 BC. AR 11.91 g. IMP IX TR – [PO T V] Bare head r. Rev. MART – VLTO Circular tetrastyle temple within which *vexillum*. C 202. BMC 703. RIC 507. CBN 989. RPC 2220. Old cabinet tone and very fine 1'000

Privately purchased from Harlan J. Berk.

Yet again another example of the temple of Mars Ultor with single standard inside. I bought this coin for one reason. The portrait style is exquisite – quite rare as such from the Pergamum mint. This is a budget coin with a great portrait. I hope it finds a home with a budding collector of the twelve Caesars. MSG.



- 61 *P. Petronius Turpilianus*. Denarius circa 19 BC, AR 3.96 g. TVRPILIANVS IIIIVIR / FERON Diademed and draped bust of Feronia r. Rev. CAESAR AVGVSTVS SIGN RECE Bareheaded Parthian warrior kneeling r., holding in outstretched r. hand standard marked X and adorned with *vexillum*. C 484. BMC 14. RIC 288. CBN 127. Wonderful iridescent tone and good extremely fine 6'000

Privately purchased from Ed Waddell.

One more issue in this sale related to the Parthian standards. A nice coin with the fully detailed "X" for the tenth legion, whose standards were lost by Crassus. MSG.



- 62 Denarius, Colonia Patricia 18 BC, AR 3.85 g. CAESARI – AVGVSTO Laureate head r. Rev. Slow quadriga r. containing *aquila* and surmounted by four miniature galloping horses. C 274. BMC 392. RIC 108a. CBN 1178. Rare 4'000

Ex Münzhandlung Basel, 22 March 1937, 535; P. & P. Santamaria, Rome 14 October 1949, Magnaguti, 392 and UBS 78, 2008, 1314 sales.

This coin likely still relates to the return of the Parthian standards. The temple of Mars Ultor is variously shown with: just the standards; a standard being held by Mars Ultor; and the standards being inside a quadriga; in each case this image being inside the temple itself. Again we must assume that this was an evolving concept as the temple itself had yet to be built. Sadly, after the temple's dedication in 2 BC, we get no coinage showing the end result. This coin is a splendid example for the issue. MSG.



- 63 Cistophoric tetradrachm, Pergamum circa 19-18 BC, AR 11.90 g. IMP IX TR PO V Bare head r. Rev. COM – ASIAE Hexastyle temple with pediment inscribed ROM ET AVGVST. C 86. BMC 705. RIC 506. RPC 2219. Sutherland 524. Wonderful old cabinet tone and very fine 2'000

Ex Naville XI, 1925, 211 and Lanz 109, 2002, 281 sales.

One of the tougher cistophori with a nice reverse detail. It also has the typical Pergamum artistic portrait of Augustus. Although worship of the emperor was illegal in Rome, it was often overlooked, if not encouraged, in the provinces. Here the design of a common temple design where worship of Rome and Augustus was standard practice. MSG.



- 64 Denarius, Colonia Caesaraugusta circa 19-18 BC. AR 3.84 g. CAESAR – AVGVSTVS Bare head r. Rev. Round shield inscribed S·P·Q·R / CL·V. C 294. BMC 334. RIC 42a. CBN 1311.

Light iridescent tone and good very fine

1'000

Ex Triton sale VI, 2003, 802.



- 65 Denarius, Colonia Patricia circa 18 BC. AR 3.78 g. S·P·Q·R PAREN[T] / CONS SVO *Toga picta* over *tunica palmata* between *aquila*, on l., and wreath, on r. Rev. CAESAR[II] / AVGVST[O] Slow quadriga r., panels decorated with Victories and surmounted by four miniature galloping horses. C 78. BMC 397. RIC 99. CBN 1191.

In unusually fine condition for the issue. Wonderful iridescent tone, reverse slightly off-centre, otherwise good extremely fine / extremely fine

3'500

Privately purchased from Freeman and Sear.

I remember David Michaels writing up the invoice for this coin and after struggling with what to identify it as, he simply put "wonder coin" as the description. It really is a stunning piece. I would call it a wonder coin as well! MSG.



- 66 Denarius, Colonia Patricia circa 18 BC. AR 3.77 g. CAESARI – AVGVSTO Laureate head l. Rev. Triumphal *currus* carrying *aquila* within domed tetrastyle temple. C 282. BMC 386. RIC 120. CBN 1215.

Wonderful iridescent tone and extremely fine / good extremely fine

3'500

Here is the final coin in this sale related to the return of the Parthian standards. This coin, one of the more difficult issues for the series, shows a chariot holding the standards. See lot 59 for further description. This is a very nice example for this issue. MSG.



67

- 67 *C. Gallius Lupercus*. "Medallic" Sestertius 16 BC, Orichalcum 36.91 g. OB / CIVIS / SERVATOS Oak wreath flanked by two laurel branches. Rev. C. GALLIVS C F LUPERCVS IIIVIR AAAFF around S C. C 434. BMC 171 note. RIC 377 note. CBN 414.

Very rare, possibly only the seventh known piece. Tiber tone and some slight porosity, good very fine

5'000

Ex NAC 9, 1996, 791; Triton I, 1997, 1284 and Nomos 7, 2013, 159 sales.

At the time of writing, seven different specimens are known to us of this type: four in public collections (Bologna, Copenhagen, Fitzwilliam and Paris) and three sold in public auctions.

Exactly why these coins were struck is uncertain, however their rarity along with their exceptional weights and style invite the suspicion that, even if they circulated, their primary purpose was for celebration rather than currency. They were probably distributed in limited numbers rather than released into circulation in the ordinary way and therefore it would seem appropriate to ascribe them to a special category. According to professor Toynbee's definition, this impressive sestertius falls into one of her two main groups of aes pieces which require the definition "medallic", or rather, specimens that seem to have been deliberately separated from standard coinage by virtue of their structure, style or content and in this way rendered inapt for circulation.

Toynbee's first series includes what one could describe as proper medallions: bronze pieces that are distinguished from regular currency by their structure, style and material. These bronze pieces were not originally intended to circulate as currency and instead were issued by the Emperor to commemorate special occasions or given as individual personal gifts.

The second series includes the so-called "pseudo medallions": pieces differentiated from coins by their very large flan or the use of two metals, or enclosure in rims or frames; this sestertius should probably be placed into this category.

Professor Toynbee adds:

"We may see in them the precursors of the true medallions, the first stage in the evolution of special commemorative and donative pieces standing apart from the regular currency...they are not coins and they are not suitable for circulation, specially for their structure." M. Grant. "Roman Imperial Money", Amsterdam 1972, pp. 98-99.

It is the unusual striking technique that makes this issue particularly interesting, since it is possible to make out the rim into which the flan was presumably inserted at the time of striking on almost all known specimens. It is also worth noting the heavy weight of these pieces; while sestertii struck for circulation weigh on average 25.50 grams, this specimen weighs half as much again. Given the careful preparation that must have gone into adding on this border and centring the strike, one can only imagine that this was not merely an unusually heavy sestertius.

A series of Cippus issues of Augustus

The Cippus was a Roman signpost often placed alongside a roadway. The cippus was engraved with information relating to upcoming or current events important to the empire and often the emperor specifically. Some of these signposts survive into modern times. A nice group of them can be seen on display in Rome at the Capitoline Museum near the Roman Forum. Interestingly, all four of the pieces below were minted by Roman moneyers right at the end of the time the moneyers would be allowed to place their name on the coins they produced. Is it possible some concession was granted to them in return for using these specific images as part of their output? These coin types are all rather rare, as are the other issues by the moneyers. MSG.



68

- 68 *L. Vinicius*. Denarius 16 BC, AR 3.74 g. Equestrian statue of Augustus before the walls of a city; the pedestal inscribed [S P] Q R / [I]MP / [C]AES. (Senatus PopulusQue Romanus IMPeratori CAESari: The Senatus and the Roman People [dedicated this statue to] Imperator Caesar). Rev. L VINICIVS - [L F III VIR] Cippus inscribed S P [Q R] / IMP CAE / QVOD V / M S EX / EA P Q IS / AD A DE. (Senatus PopulusQue Romanus IMPeratori CAESari Quod Viae Munitae Sunt EX EA Pecunia Quem IS AD Aerarium DETulit: The senate and the Roman People [give thanks to] Imperator Caesar for repairing the roads with the money which he has made available to the Treasury). C 543. BMC 82. RIC 362. CBN 358.

A lovely iridescent tone, minor areas of weakness, otherwise about extremely fine

2'000

Ex Leu 2, 1972, 354; Adolph Hess 252, 1982, 227; Lanz 88, 1998, 954 and Künker 124, 2007, 8679 sales.

I have never seen this piece fully struck on both sides. MSG.



69



- 69 *L. Mescinius Rufus*. Denarius 16 BC, AR 4.03 g. [CAESAR AVG]V – STVS TR POT Laureate head r. Rev. L·MESCINIUS – RVFVS IIIIVIR Cippus inscribed IMP / CAES / AVG / LVD / SAEC (IMPerator CAESar AUGustus LUDos SAECulares [fecit]: Imperator Caesar celebrated the Secular Games), flanked by XV – S F (Quindecimviri Sacris Faciundis: [on the authority of] The Board of Fifteen for the making of Sacrifices). C 461. BMC 89 var. (different division of obverse legend). RIC 355. CBN 339.

Very rare and in exceptional condition for the issue, among the finest specimens known.

An unusual portrait well struck in high relief, old cabinet tone and extremely fine

8'000

Ex Cahn-Hess 1933, Haeblerlin, 3290; Glendining's 19 July 1950, Platt Hall, 729 and Stack's 22 April 2009, 1381 sales. From the Saint Ludovico and Firth of Clyde collections.

This piece relates to the holding of the Secular Games by Augustus – Ludi Saeculari. As important as this event was it is surprising that the coin is seen so infrequently. Really a nice example for the issue. MSG.

Although the dates are uncertain, the *Ludi Saeculares*, the centennial games celebrating the anniversary of Rome's foundation, were first celebrated in either the mid-4th or the mid-3rd century B.C. The games should have been celebrated in the early 40s B.C., but at the time Caesar had cast his die, crossing the Rubicon and bringing to the Roman world two long decades of civil war and upheaval. After the wars and once firmly established in power, in 17 B.C. Augustus revived the ancient Tarentine games as the *Ludi Saeculares*, allowing future emperors who wished to hold the games two different dating cycles from which to choose.

The reverse of this fine denarius of Augustus shows a cippus, or short dedicatory pillar or column, upon which is inscribed the commemorative inscription IMP CAES AVG LVD SAEC in five lines. It was struck by the moneyer L. Mescinius Rufus in the year following the games, and in the field either side of the cippus is inscribed XV S F (*quindecimviri sacris faciundis*), which honours the fifteen members of the priestly college whose responsibilities in part included the proper sacred observances associated with the games. Although it is not certain where the cippus was located in Rome, it was probably erected within the confines of the Campus Martius as it was the scene of the rituals that preceded the celebrations (see *Atti del Congresso internazionale di numismatica, Roma*, ii, pp. 277ff).



70



70

- 70 *L. Vinicius*. Denarius, Rome, 16 BC, AR 3.71 g. [AVGVSTVS] – TR POT VIII Bare head r. Rev. L VINICIUS – LF IIIIVIR Cippus inscribed S P Q R / IMP CAE / QVOD V / M S EX / EA P QIS / AD A DE (Senatus PopulusQue Romanus IMPeratori CAESari Quod Viae Munitae Sunt EX EA Pecunia Quem IS AD Aerarium DETulit: The senate and the Roman People [give thanks to] Imperator Caesar for repairing the roads with the money which he has made available to the Treasury). C 542. BMC 80. RIC 361. CBN 355.

Extremely rare. Old cabinet tone and about very fine

1'500

Ex UBS sale 78, 2008, 1333 (privately purchased from Herzfelder).



71



71

- 71 *L. Mescinius Rufus*. Denarius 16 BC, AR 3.84 g. I O M / S·P·Q·R·V·S / PR S IMP CAE / QVOD PER EV / R P IN AMP / AT Q TRAN / S E (Iovi Optimo Maximo Senatus PopulusQue Romanus Vota Suscepta Pro Salute IMPeratoris CAESaris QUOD PER EUm Res Publica IM AMPliore ATque TRANquilliore Statu Est: To Juppiter Optimus Maximus: The Senate and the Roman People [have] undertaken prayers for the health of Imperator Caesar because through him the Republic is in a fuller and more peaceful state), within oak wreath. Rev. L MESCINIUS – RVFVS III VIR Cippus inscribed IMP / CAES / AVGV / COMM / CONS (IMPeratori CAESari AUGusto COMMuni CONSensu: [Dedicated to] Imperator Caesar Augustus by Common Consent). At sides, S – C. C 462. BMC 91. RIC 358. CBN 345.

Extremely rare. Old cabinet tone, areas of weakness, otherwise good very fine

3'000

Ex UBS sale 78, 2008, 1331 (privately purchased from Herzfelder).



72



- 72 C. Antistius Reginus. Denarius 13 BC, AR 3.75 g. CAESAR – AVGVSTVS Bare head r. Rev. C-ANTISTIVS REGINVS Sacrificial implements: *simpulum*, *lituus*, tripod and *patera*. Below, III VIR. C 347. BMC 119. RIC 410. CBN 547. Struck on a full flan and about extremely fine 2'000

Ex Triton sale XIV, 2011, 623.



73



- 73 As. Auxiliary mint in Gaul 8 BC, Æ 11.24 g. CAESAR – PONT MAX Laureate head r. Rev. ROM ET AVG Front elevation of the Altar of Lugdunum. C 240. BMC 550. RIC 230. CBN 1634. Very rare. Dark green patina and good very fine 1'000

Ex Hirsch sale 220, 2002, 1528. Privately purchased from Ed Waddell.

This piece, which seems to belong to the larger series of Altar of Lugdunum issues which appear toward the end of Augustus' reign is differentiated only by the obverse legend "CAESAR PONT MAX". RIC attributes this coin to 15 to after 10 BC or possibly later. If indeed this coin was minted this early it seems strange that the type was reprised for a second much larger issue sometime around 12 AD. RIC also attributes this piece to the Lugdunum mint but stylistically the portrait differs from the later issues. Could this issue have been produced later at a different mint to coincide with the larger series? MSG.



74



74

- 74 As, Nemausus circa 10 BC-10 AD, Æ 12.84 g. IMP / DIVI F Heads of Agrippa and Augustus back to back, the former wearing combined rostral crown and laurel wreath, the latter wearing an laurel wreath. Rev. COL – NEM Crocodile r., chained to palm-tree with long, vertical fronds; at the top of the tree, wreath with long ties. C 7. BMC –. RIC 158. Sear, RCTV Millennium Edition 1730 (this specimen illustrated). RPC 524. CBN –. Dark patina and good very fine 750

Ex NFA XXV, 1990, 334 and Gemini III, 2007, 337 sales.

One of the great troop settlements created by Augustus, and here clearly also attributed to Agrippa, was the city of Colonia Nemausus in Narbonensis – modern day France. Through the reverse design of the Egyptian crocodile we can also tell the colony was settled by troops involved in the defeat of Cleopatra and Egypt itself. This is not a particularly rare coin but the present coin has excellent obverse detail and a complete crocodile and palm tree on the reverse. It is rare as such. I never found one that I felt exhibited all these details but was in higher grade. Really a nice coin for the type. MSG.



- 75 Denarius, Lugdunum 8 BC. AR 3.78 g. AVGVSTVS – DIVI F Laureate head r. Rev. Augustus, togate, seated l. on stool on platform, extending r. hand to infant held out by cloaked male figure; in exergue, IMP XIII. C 175. BMC 494. RIC 201a. CBN 1455.

Rare and in unusually fine condition for the issue. Light iridescent tone
and about extremely fine / extremely fine

2'000

Privately purchased from Harlan J. Berk at the NYINC in 2008.



- 76 *M. Salvius Otho*. Dupondius (?) 7 BC. Æ 20.35 g. CAESAR AVGVST PONT MAX TRI – BVNIC POT Laureate head l., crowned by Victory standing behind and holding cornucopiae. Rev. M SALVIVS OTHO III VIR A A A F F around S C. C 517. BMC 224. RIC 429. CBN 685.

Very rare. Brown-green patina with some encrustations on obverse,
otherwise very fine / good very fine

7'500

Ex Antiqua sale XIII, 2006, 132.

By 7 B.C. Tiberius had returned to Rome to assume his second consulship and to celebrate a triumph he had been awarded for his successful campaigns of recent years, notably in Germany. Not only did these honours provide credit due, but, as Levick points out, they demonstrated that in Augustan Rome proper triumphs were reserved for members of the imperial family. His glory of that year was followed up, in 6 B.C., with an award of the tribunician power for another five years. With Marcus Agrippa and Nero Claudius Drusus both recently deceased, and Augustus' grandsons still young, Tiberius was the obvious successor should something happen to the emperor. From an arm's length all of this would seem encouraging to a man who so diligently had worked toward becoming Augustus' heir. However, Tiberius found life in Rome intolerable: he disliked the civilian duties he was assigned, he detested his wife Julia, and he realized that to some degree these high honours were merely interim measures by Augustus, who in truth was awaiting the maturity of his grandchildren, Gaius Caesar and Lucius Caesar. In 6 B.C. Tiberius left Rome for what turned out to be eight years of self-exile on the island of Rhodes, from which he returned only after Gaius and Lucius were dead, and his path to the highest office had been cleared. The remarkable bronzes depicting the bust of Augustus being crowned from behind by Victory are important relics of this pivotal era in Roman history. Mattingly, Dressel, Giard, Carson, Kent and Sutherland all attribute the issues to c.7 B.C. due to their presumed link to the triumph held for Tiberius. For this reason, the college of moneyers comprising M. Salvius Otho, P. Lurius Agrippa and M. Maecilius Tullus are believed to have held office in 7 B.C., as each of them – and no others – produced these bronzes. Two main varieties are known: with and without a globe at the tip of the emperor's bust. There is no consensus on the denomination of these coins, which weigh anywhere from less than ten grams to more than 17 grams, and are struck on planchets that range from too small for the dies to markedly oversized with somewhat ornamented borders. It is always possible that more than one denomination was intended, as Sutherland proposed in describing some as dupondii and others as asses. Mattingly tentatively describes them as dupondii, but refers to them as "Triumphal Coinage," and Grant and Giard perhaps take the most defensible ground in describing them as medallions, not coins. This one of the few authentic specimens known of this extremely rare and interesting issue, which was extensively forged in the late 19th – early 20th century. Unfortunately many of these forgeries are not identified as such and get sold regularly in public auctions.



- 77 Tetradrachm, Antiochia 4-3 BC, AR 15.17 g. ΚΑΙΣΑΡΟΣ ΣΕ – ΒΑΣΤΟΥ Laureate head r. Rev. ΕΤΟΥΣ – ΝΙΚΗΣ Tyche seated r. on rock, holding palm branch in r. hand; at her feet, river-god Orontes swimming r. In r. field, monogram and IB over monogram. In upper field, HK (Aktian era). McAlee 182. Prieur 52. RPC 4153. In exceptional condition for the issue. Light tone and good extremely fine 4'000

Ex Gorny & Mosch sale 190, 2010, 413 and Nomos fixed price list 2011, 89.

A wonderful example of this issue which is otherwise not particularly rare. I doubt you could find a nicer one. MSG.



- 78 Quinarius, Lugdunum July 7 AD – June 8 AD, AV 3.84 g. AVGVSTVS – DIVI F Laureate head r. Rev. TR POT – XXX Victory, draped, seated r. on globe, holding wreath with both hands. C 317. BMC 505. RIC 217. King 19. CBN 1679.

Very rare and in exceptional condition for the issue. About extremely fine 15'000

Ex NAC sale 23, 2002, 1466.

All quinarii are rare. This is a nice example of the extensive series issued under Augustus. NAC called this coin at the time of its auction "Good VF". I would call it at least "about EF" if not full EF. It's really a clean coin for an issue in gold that saw some circulation. MSG.



- 79 Sestertius, Lugdunum circa 9-14 AD, Æ 26.01 g. CAESAR AVGVSTVS DIVI F PATER PATRIAE Laureate head r. Rev. Front elevation of altar of Lugdunum decorated with corona civica between laurel branches, nude male figures on either side, flanked by victories on columns facing each other; below, ROM ET AVG. C 236. BMC 565. RIC 231a. CBN 1695.

Very rare. Brown tone and good very fine 6'000

Ex M&M 43, 1970, 278; Shulman 291, 1990, 1018 and Künker 124, 2007, 8659 sales.

Perhaps ten years ago I missed out on a better specimen than this because, at the time, I did not realize how difficult this issue was in high grade. I have seen others since then with either a nice obverse or a nice reverse – but never both. This is a very complete coin exhibiting good detail on both sides. It is so tough to find better. MSG.



- 80 *L. Cassius and C. Valerius Fene(stella?)*, duoviri. Semis, Caesaraugusta circa 15-13 BC, Æ 4.84 g. AVGVSTVS – DIVI F Laureate head l. Rev. CAESAR – AVGVSTA L CAS[SIO C VAL (VAL ligate)] FEN *vexillum* set on low base; in field, II – VIR. SNG Copenhagen 546 var. (magistrate). Burgos 332. RPC 311. Very rare. Brown tone and about extremely fine / good very fine 2'000

Ex Triton sale X, 2007, 558.

A cool little coin in high grade with a really nice portrait style. MSG.

- 81 Drachm, Caria, Tabae circa 6 BC-14 AD, AR 3.65 g. ΚΑΙΣΑΡ ΣΕΒΑΣΤΟΣ Laureate head r. Rev. ΤΑΒΗΝΩΝ Emperor, togate, seated l. with feet on footstool, holding sceptre and Nike with wreath. In l. field, monogram. BMC –, RIC –, SNG München –, SNG von Aulock cf. 2713 (bronze). RPC 2868. Extremely rare, only four specimens cited by RPC. Old cabinet tone and good very fine 3'000

Ex Leu 18, 1977, 201 and CNG 90, 2012, 1030 sales.



- 82 Denarius, Lugdunum circa 13-14 AD, AR 3.85 g. CAESAR AVGVSTVS – DIVI F PATER PATRIAE Laureate head of Augustus r. Rev. TI CAESAR AVG – F TR POT XV Bare head of Tiberius r. C 2. BMC 507. RIC 226. CBN 1682.

Extremely rare and probably the finest specimen known. Two appealing portraits perfectly struck, light iridescent tone and extremely fine 15'000

Ex NAC sale 29, 2005, 453.

When Augustus had run out of all other options it became necessary for him to name Tiberius as his successor. This coin type, along with the Altar of Lugdunum issues (as shown in lot 79) are the first issues in the long Augustan series to finally identify Tiberius. This coin exhibits a wonderfully realistic portrait of Tiberius and is particularly nice for the issue – which itself is scarce. MSG.

This denarius testifies to the definitive adoption and the ensuing appointment of Tiberius as Augustus' heir. It is worth mentioning how the minting of this extremely rare issue occurred so shortly before the death of the emperor, about whose demise various leading inferences have been made. We indeed know from sources that Augustus retired to Nola and, suspicious of his entourage, would eat only figs from his gardens. All the same, this cautious diet did not save him from a possible death by poisoning. Some have suggested the involvement of Livia, a powerful and controversial personality who may have been the shadowy orchestrator behind at least some of the inexplicable deaths of many heirs previously appointed by Augustus. The first to succumb to a sudden and questionable disease, in 23 BC, was his nephew Marcellus, son of the emperor's sister Octavia and most loved potential heir. Next in line for succession was now Agrippa, but he also was not to outlive the Emperor, for an untimely albeit natural death took him in 12 BC. Then it was the turn of Agrippa's son Lucius Caesar, who died of a suspicious illness in Gaul in 2 AD, his brother Gaius having died two years previously of a too fatal wound while at war in the East. Agrippa Postumus, younger brother of Gaius and Lucius, thus became the last male descendent of the Emperor who, if the truth be told, despised him for his intractability and madness, to the point of promoting a "senatus consultum" to have him transferred to an island, in perpetual isolation and surrounded by a body of soldiers (Suet., Augusti Vita, 65). But after Augustus' death the position of Agrippa, next of blood, as legitimate heir - madness notwithstanding - could not be challenged and so he was immediately disposed of by one of his guardians. Tiberius' path to the throne was finally clear.



83

- 83 **Divus Augustus.** Sestertius 34-35 AD, Æ 28.65 g. DIVO AVGVSTO S·P·Q·R Shield within wreath inscribed OB / CIVIS / SER supported by two capricorns; beneath, globe. Rev. TI CAESAR DIVI AVG F AVGVST P M TR POT XXXVI around S C. C 302. BMC Tiberius 103. RIC Tiberius 54. CBN Tiberius -. Brown tone and very fine 750

Privately purchased from Roma Numismatics.



84



84



- 84 **Divus Augustus.** Sestertius 36-37 AD, Æ 26.08 g. DIVO AVGVSTO S·P·Q·R Shield within wreath inscribed OB / CIVIS / SER supported by two capricorns; beneath, globe. Rev. TI CAESAR DIVI AVG F AVGVST P M TR POT XXXIIX around S C. C 304. BMC Tiberius 129. RIC Tiberius 69. CBN Tiberius 118. In unusual condition for the issue, brown-green patina with some minor porosity on obverse and struck on a narrow flan, otherwise extremely fine 5'000

Ex NAC sale 72, 2013, 582.

This is a really nice example of the type. MSG.



85



- 85 **Divus Augustus.** Dupondius, restitution issue struck under Titus 80-81, Æ 13.28 g. DIVVS AV - GVSTVS PATER Radiate head l.; above, star. Rev. IMP·T·VESP·AVG - REST Victory, draped, alighting l. holding round shield inscribed S P / Q R. In field, S - C. C Titus 557 var. BMC Titus 266. RIC Titus 189a. CBN Titus 278 var. (without star). Komnick type 37.0.

An unusual and interesting portrait, dark green patina gently smoothed, otherwise extremely fine

4'500

Ex Triton sale XI, 2008, Prideraux, 878.

Really a great coin and a very interesting strong portrait style! MSG.

Tiberius, 14 – 37



- 86 Denarius, Lugdunum 15-16, AR 3.78 g. TI CAESAR DIVI – AVG F AVGVSTVS Laureate head r. Rev. TR POT XVII Tiberius in triumphal quadriga r., holding laurel branch and eagle-tipped sceptre; the horses' heads are all turned r. In exergue, IMP VII. C 48. BMC 8. RIC 4. CBN 5.

Rare and exceptionally large and complete for this issue.

Extremely fine / good extremely fine

3'500

Ex NAC sale 29, 2005, 461.

A very nice example of the much rarer type of denarius for Tiberius. MSG.



- 87 Dupondius circa 16-22, Æ 15.90 g. TI CAESAR DIVI AVG F [AVGVST I]MP VIII Laureate head l. Rev. CLEMENTIAE Small bust of Tiberius within laurel wreath on round shield; in field, S – C. C 4. BMC 85. RIC 38. CBN 125.

Rare and in exceptional condition for the issue. An interesting portrait and an unusually finely detailed reverse composition, brown tone and about extremely fine

5'000

Ex Otto Helbing 22 March 1926, 197; Otto Helbing 12 April 1927, 1869; Otto Helbing 20 June 1929, 3737; M&M-Leu 2 November 1967, Niggeler 1082; M&M 52, 1975, 557 and Antiqua XII, 2003, 130 sales. From the Niggeler Collection

A very tough coin in great condition. MSG.



- 88 Aureus, Lugdunum 14-37, AV 7.81 g. TI CAESAR DIVI – AVG F AVGVSTVS Laureate head r. Rev. PONTIF – MAXIM Pax-Livia figure seated r. on chair with ornamented legs, holding long vertical sceptre and branch. C 15. BMC 46. RIC 29. CBN 32. Calicó 305a.

An absolutely spectacular portrait of great realism. Virtually as struck and almost Fdc

15'000

Ex Nomos Fixed Price list 2011, 90.

Some claim you can watch Tiberius' age on his coinage. I have searched for years to prove this was true. Victor England offered me this piece and I knew immediately that I had to have it. This is undoubtedly the best surviving "aging" portrait of Tiberius I have ever seen. The coin is virtually mint state to boot. I have seen many very nice aurei of Tiberius but there hasn't been one that comes close to this magnificent piece in my mind. I wouldn't miss the chance to add this to a first rate collection. It is doubtful you will ever see a better one. MSG.



- 89 Tetradrachm. Alexandria 20-21, AR 13.56 g. [TIBERIOΣ] KAICAP CEBACTOC Laureate head of Tiberius r.; below chin, L.Z. Rev. [Θ]EOC – CEBAC[TOC] Radiate head of Augustus r. Milne 38. Dattari 78. RPC 5089.

Old cabinet tone and good very fine

1'500



- 90 Quinarius, Lugdunum 25-26, AV 3.93 g. TI DIVI F – AVGVSTVS Laureate head r. Rev. TR POT – XXXII Victory seated r. on globe, holding wreath in both hands. C 59 corr. BMC 23. RIC 16. CBN 12. King 12.

Rare. Very fine / good very fine

5'000

Ex CNG sale 76, 2007, 1354.

Like Augustus, Tiberius minted a long series of quinarii. They are also all quite rare. This is a fine example of the type. MSG.



- 91 As 36-37, Æ 8.83 g. TI CAESAR DIVI AVG F AVGVS[IMP VIII] Laureate head l. Rev. PONTIF – MAX TR – POT XXXIIX / S – C Rudder placed vertically across banded globe; small globe at base of rudder. C 14 (misdescribed). BMC 136. RIC 64. CBN 123.

Wonderful green patina, struck on a narrow flan, otherwise good extremely fine

4'000

Ex Ars Antiqua 2, 2001, 210 and NAC 72, 2013, 590 sales.

Not an overly rare type but a very nice example for the issue. MSG.

In the name of Julia, daughter of Augustus



- 92 Sestertius circa 22-23 AD, Æ 28.33 g. S P Q R / IVLIAE / AVGVS[IMP VIII] Carpentum with ornamented sides drawn r. by two mules. Rev. TI CAESAR DIVI AVG F AVGVS[IMP VIII] P M TR POT XXIII around S C. C 6. BMC Tiberius 76. RIC Tiberius 51. CBN Tiberius 55.

Very rare. Brown tone and very fine

3'000

Ex Künker sale 168, 2010, 7640.

In the name of Agrippa



- 93 As after 37, Æ 10.39 g. M AGRIPPA L – F COS III Head l., wearing rostral crown. Rev. S – C Neptune, cloaked, standing l. holding small dolphin and trident. C 3. BMC Tiberius 161. RIC Gaius 58. CBN Gaius 78.
A superb portrait and a lovely brown tone, extremely fine

2'500

Ex Sotheby's 17 February 1892, 385 and Baldwin's 42, 2005, 227. From the William C. Boyd Collection.

This type is relatively common but not in this condition. Really a stunningly nice portrait of Agrippa and with a nice provenance! MSG.

Gaius, 37 – 41



- 94 Denarius, Lugdunum 37-38, AR 3.72 g. C CAESAR AVG GERM P M TR POT COS Bare head of Gaius r. Rev. Radiate head of Augustus (or Tiberius) r. between two stars. C 11. BMC 3. RIC 2. CBN 3.

Two lovely portraits struck on a full flan and with a light iridescent tone, minor marks and a hairline flan crack at eleven o'clock on obverse, otherwise about extremely fine

8'000

Ex Busso Peus sale 372, 2002, 1154.

This is one of four main types of denarii of Caligula. I finally was able to get all four of these designs in high grade. Two were in the first sale and this with lot 95 below are in this sale. Since Caligula had few deeds of his own to glorify he used his coinage to connect him to more "honorable" deceased relatives – here with Augustus. This is a nice mate to the coin below. MSG.



- 95 Aureus, Lugdunum 37-38, AV 7.90 g. C CAESAR AVG GERM P M TR POT COS Bare head of Gaius r. Rev. Radiate head of Augustus (or Tiberius) r., between two stars. C 10. BMC 1. RIC 1. CBN 1. Calicó 336.

Extremely rare and in unusually fine condition for the issue. Two superb portraits well struck and centred on a full flan, minor marks, otherwise extremely fine

60'000

Ex Leu 18, 1977, 293 and NAC 38, 2007, 16 sales.

A tough coin in great condition. It would be hard to improve upon this piece. Worthy of the finest collection. MSG.

The third of the Julio-Claudian emperors, Gaius, was perceived by his contemporaries and indeed by later historians as mentally unhinged. Surviving accounts of his reign by contemporaries are scant – just some anecdotal information in Seneca and Philo – and all of it negative. Our best sources of information about his personality and his reign come from the historians Suetonius and Cassius Dio, both of whom relied on primary sources now lost, and both of whom portray him in a very negative light. Whatever the truth of the matter, Gaius, known by his nickname Caligula to posterity, started his short reign as an enlightened and benevolent ruler. Within just a few short months, however, after having suffered a severe illness, perhaps encephalitis or meningitis, he began showing signs of depravity and megalomania. It is possible that the disease afflicting him left him mentally unbalanced, or it could simply be that he was depraved from the outset.

For all of his vices, however, Caligula did pay particular attention to his coinage, and expressed his filial piety on several issues by employing the likenesses of various members his family, both deceased and living. This coin type with the radiate head of Divus Augustus, Caligula's maternal great-grandfather (or possibly Tiberius, his paternal uncle and father by adoption) on the reverse is particularly interesting. It comes in two varieties, an initial issue without inscription and with two stars in the field (as the present specimen), and a subsequent issue lacking the stars but having the inscription DIVVS AVG PATER PATRIAE identifying the portrait as that of the deified Augustus. The first type without legend may in fact depict Tiberius instead of Augustus, with the stars representing Julius Caesar and Augustus, at this point the only two men who had been deified. This hypothesis becomes all the more enticing when one considers that upon his elevation Caligula requested from the senate that Tiberius be deified, but only dropped the matter after discovering how universally despised the deceased emperor was in Rome.



96

- 96 Sestertius 37-38, Æ 28.56 g. C CAESAR AVG GERMANICVS PON M TR POT Laureate bust l. Rev. AGRIPPINA – DRVSILLA – IVLIA The sisters of Gaius standing facing: Agrippina, as Securitas, holds cornucopiae in r. hand resting on column, with l. hand on shoulder of Drusilla, as Concordia, who holds patera and cornucopiae; Julia, as Fortuna, holds rudder and cornucopiae. In exergue, S·C. C 4. BMC 36. RIC 33. CBN 47. Berk 36 (this coin).

Very rare and in superb condition for the issue. A lovely portrait and a finely detailed reverse composition, wonderful reddish-green patina and extremely fine

30'000

Ex NAC 29, 2005, 472 and Ira and Larry Goldberg 46, 2008, Millennia, 85 sales.

Certainly in the top tier of survivors for this popular issue. This was one of the few bargains in the Millennia sale and I was prepared to bid much higher to get it. Worthy of being in the finest collection. The only one I have seen better was in a NAC sale and went well into six figures. MSG.

Many aspects of Caligula's reign have captured the imagination of historians, but the sexual relationships he is said to have pursued with his sisters is perhaps most shocking of all. It is on par with the exploits of Elagabalus or the alleged seduction of young Nero by his deranged mother Agrippina Jr., who, by no mere coincidence, was one of Caligula's sisters.

Caligula's incestuous relationships with his sisters are alleged by the relatively contemporary historians Suetonius and Josephus. Much later, in the fourth and fifth centuries, these original claims were echoed by various writers, including Eutropius, Aurelius Victor, St. Jerome, Orosius and the anonymous compiler of the *Epitome de caesaribus*. The truth of the claims, of course, is impossible to confirm, and there is a healthy dose of scepticism among modern scholars.

Whatever personal or sexual affection Caligula may have felt toward his sisters, this coinage is purely political and dynastic in flavour. His sisters are each named and are shown in the guise of personifications: the eldest, Agrippina Junior, as Securitas, the middle-sister, Drusilla, as Concordia, and the youngest, Julia Livilla, as Fortuna.

This remarkable type was produced on two occasions, his initial coinage of 37-38, and again in 39-40. The example offered here belongs to the first coinage, which was issued when all three of the imperial women were alive. Drusilla, Caligula's favourite sister (and the one with whom he is said to have had an enduring incestuous relationship), died tragically on June 10, 38, nearly three months after the last coins of the initial issue were struck.

By the time the last issue was produced (beginning March 18, 39), Drusilla had been accorded the status of a goddess, providing the curious circumstance of a goddess being portrayed in the guise of a personification. Life in the palace worsened after Drusilla's death and Caligula's affection for his remaining two sisters declined.

The circumstances reported by the ancient sources are nothing short of bizarre: Drusilla had been married to Marcus Aemilius Lepidus, who had also been Caligula's lover. At least after Drusilla died, Lepidus extended his sexual liaisons to include Agrippina and Julia Livilla, his former sisters-in-law. By late in 39 this web of relationships seems to have evolved into a failed plot by Lepidus against Caligula, who executed Lepidus and sent his two sisters into exile out of their suspected complicity.

All of this palace intrigue occurred in the midst of the second issue of 'three sisters' sestertii, the production of which Caligula probably halted immediately since of the three sisters shown, one was dead and two were in exile for having plotted against his life.



- 97 Sestertius circa 37-38, Æ 26.65 g. C CAESAR AVG GERMANICVS PON M TR POT Laureate head l. Rev. ADLOCVT Gaius, bare-headed and togate, standing l. on platform before low stool, haranguing with r. hand extended to five soldiers holding shields and aquilae. In exergue, COH. C 1. BMC 33. RIC 32. CBN 45. Rare. Struck on a full flan and with a pleasant green patina, good very fine / about extremely fine 8'000

Ex Hess-Leu 28, 1965, 372; NAC 27, 2004, 322 and NAC 52, 2009, 330 sales.

A difficult type for Caligula seen here addressing the very troops who would later assassinate him. As such it is a very historically interesting piece. Quite rare and nice. MSG.

The death of Tiberius in March, 37 left Rome with two heirs to the throne – his great-nephew Caligula and his grandson Tiberius Gemellus. The elder and apparently craftier of the two was Caligula, who attracted the allegiance of Sertorius Macro, who in 31 had replaced Sejanus as Praetorian prefect. With the help of Macro, Caligula was able to bar Tiberius Gemellus from any meaningful role in government before he eventually had him executed.

From the very outset Caligula's authority was based in his support by the Praetorians, which represents the first time the guards backed a candidate for the throne. The approval of the senate was not open for serious discussion since the Praetorians had chosen their candidate and he was presented to the senate as a *fait accompli*.

The *adlocutio cohortis sestertii* are clear reflections of the special arrangement between the new emperor and the Praetorians. Caligula immediately paid each of the Praetorians the award of 1,000 sestertii promised to them by Tiberius in his will, and for good measure he doubled that amount from his own purse. The precedent he and Tiberius established was dangerous, and only four years later his successor Claudius felt it necessary to offer a significantly larger amount, 15,000 sestertii per guard.

The reverse scene makes clear a pact of mutual support, and the contrast between young Caligula, togate upon a platform, and the standard-bearing praetorians in full military attire could not have been lost on those who handled these coins: Caligula would be free to pursue his personal agendas as emperor knowing he was backed by the guards.

Even more alarming to those who read the subtext of the design was the absence of the SC. Though the precise role of this formulaic abbreviation for *senatus consulto* or *senatus consultum* is not known, it is generally agreed that it acknowledges the senate in some capacity (even if it was merely nostalgic). For it to be absent from this bronze type when it was included on all other of Caligula's imperial aes, can only mean that it was intended to send a clear message to the senate that the emperor's relationship with the guard was the bedrock of his administration.



- 98 As 37-38, Æ 12.30 g. C CAESAR AVG GERMANICVS PON M TR POT Bare head l. Rev. VESTA Vesta, diademed and veiled, seated l. on throne, holding patera and sceptre; at sides, S – C. C 27. BMC 46. RIC 38. CBN 65. Green patina and extremely fine 3'000

The most common Caligula coin but in very nice condition. MSG.



- 99 Denarius circa 40, AR 3.72 g. C CAESAR AVG PON M TR POT III COS III Laureate head r. Rev. S·P·Q·R / P·P / OB·C·S· within oak wreath. C 21. BMC p. 150, note. RIC 28. CBN 39.

Very rare and among the finest specimens known of this very difficult issue. Light iridescent tone and extremely fine

20'000

Ex M&M 72, 1987, 727; M&M 92, 2002, 26 and NAC 80, 2014, C. G. Collection, 58 sales.

Of the four main types of Caligula this one is truly difficult to find. This was a fairly recent purchase which finally allowed me to complete the main "type set" of coinage of Caligula. This is really a nice coin. MSG.

In the name of Antonia, wife of Nero Claudius Drusus mother of Claudius



- 100 Dupondius circa 41-50, Æ 15.87 g. ANTONIA – AVGVSTA Draped bust r., hair in long plait behind neck. Rev. TI CLAVDIVS CAESAR AVG P M TR P IMP / S – C Claudius, veiled and togate, standing l., holding *simpulum* in r. hand. C 6. BMC Claudius 166. RIC Claudius 92. CBN Claudius 147.

Rare. A portrait of fine style and a finely engraved reverse, light brown tone and about extremely fine

3'500

Ex NAC 9, 1996, 820; Busso Peus 349, 1996, 315 and Ira and Larry Goldberg 72, 2013, 4418 sales.

In the name of Germanicus, father of Gaius and brother of Claudius



- 101 As 80-81, Æ 9.97 g. GERMANICVS CAESAR TI AVG F DIVI AVG N Bare head of Germanicus l. Rev. IMP T CAES DIVI VESP F AVG REST around S C. C 12. BMC Titus –. RIC Titus 442. CBN 306.

Brown-green patina gently smoothed, otherwise extremely fine

2'000

Ex Roma Numismatics sale 5, 2013, 680.

Claudius, 41 – 54



102

- 102 Aureus 41-42, AV 7.69 g. TI CLAVD CAESAR AVG P M TR P Laureate head r. Rev. IMPER RECEPT inscribed on praetorian camp, at the door of which stands a soldier with a standard. C 40. BMC 5. RIC 7. CBN 23. von Kaenel type 2, 28 and pl. 1, 36 (this coin cited and illustrated). Calicó 359a (this coin).

Very rare and in exceptional condition for the issue. An unusual portrait and an exceptionally detailed reverse composition perfectly centred on a full flan. Extremely fine

50'000

Ex Sangiorgi 11 April 1894, P Stettiner, 177; Chapman 25 June 1912, G H Earle, 511; Naville VIII, 1924, Bement, 620; Leu 2, 1972, 364; Leu 77, 2000, 526; CNG 60, 2002, 1525 and Triton XIV, 2011, 645 sales.

The Praetorian Guard originated during Republican times as a small troop of specially selected guards for Roman generals while encamped; by the reign of Augustus, the troops were drawn from the elite of Rome's legions throughout the empire and it had become the personal domain of the emperor, serving to protect his person as well as that of the imperial family. In A.D. 22/3 the praetorian prefect, Sejanus, convinced Tiberius to construct a camp for the troops, the *Castra Praetoria*, the walls of which are depicted on the reverse of this coin. The camp was erected just outside the north-eastern boundary of Rome, between the Viminalis and Colline Gates beyond the Servian Wall. The location both allayed concerns from the populace about having armed troops within the city itself, but also by its very proximity served as a healthy reminder which discouraged any sort of civil disorder.

Being physically disabled and suffering a severe speech impediment, Claudius was a longshot for the imperial purple. His elevation came about immediately after the assassination of his nephew, the former emperor Gaius Caligula, who had treated him cruelly by making him the butt of jokes due to his physical ailments. When the praetorians stormed the palace in the aftermath of their assassination of Caligula, Claudius was discovered hiding amongst the curtains. His fears that he would also be killed, however, proved unfounded; the guardsmen immediately hailed him emperor and took him to the *Castra Praetoria*, where Claudius then pronounced he would pay each praetorian a bonus of 15,000 sesterterii (150 aurei). Thus dramatically secured in his accession, Claudius recognized the support of the Praetorian Guard with two issues of coinage, this type showing a guardsman (or more likely *Fides Praetorianorum* – see RIC I p. 149, 6) standing behind the battlemented walls of the camp with the legend *IMPER(atore) RECEPT(o)*, and a second type showing him greeting a soldier and with the legend *PRAETOR(ianus) RECEPT(us)* (RIC 11ff). Both types were employed on aurei and denarii during the first three years of Claudius' reign, although this reverse alone saw continued use until A.D. 47.

During the later third century, three of the Praetorian camp's four walls were incorporated into construction of the Walls of Aurelian. The camp continued to serve as the base of the praetorians until A.D. 312, when Constantine the Great defeated Maxentius at the Battle of Milvian Bridge. Constantine disbanded the Praetorian Guard and had the camp destroyed. The only existing remains of the camp today are the camp's walls that were incorporated within the Walls of Aurelian.



- 103 Quadrans circa 41, Æ 3.96 g. TI CLAVDIVS CAESAR AVG around modius. Rev. PON M TR P IMP COS DES IT around S C. C 70, BMC 179, RIC 84, CBN 185.

Brown tone and good extremely fine

350

Ex Vecchi sale 8, 1997, 227. Privately purchased from Ed Waddell.



- 104 Denarius 43-44, AR 3.58 g. TI CLAVD CAESAR AVG P M TRP III Laureate head r. Rev. PACI - AVGVSTAE Pax-Nemesis, winged, advancing r., holding with l. hand winged caduceus pointing down at snake and holding out fold of drapery below chin with r. C 53, BMC p. 167 note †, RIC 22, CBN 38.

Rare and in exceptional condition for the issue. A lovely portrait struck on sound metal, light iridescent tone and good extremely fine

15'000

Ex Waddell 98, 2005, 63 and NAC 62, 2011, S. C. Markoff, 2021 sales.

By the time the emperor Claudius came to the throne after the murder of his depraved nephew Caligula, he been properly schooled in how terribly people can treat one another. Indeed, it was his enduring, impotent position in the eye of the Julio-Claudian storm that made him the central character in Robert Graves' classic work of historical fiction, *I, Claudius*. As a child he could not benefit from his father, who died before he reached his first year, and he apparently suffered a lack of love from his mother, the otherwise admirable Antonia, who, according to Suetonius (Claudius 3) described him as "a monster: a man whom nature had not finished but had merely begun". In the bigger picture, Claudius' physical disabilities served him well, for he survived the treacherous reigns of Tiberius and Caligula (though not unscathed, for he suffered through the aftermath of many deplorable acts). His 13-year reign was entirely unexpected. In one of Tacitus' most memorable and personal passages, he states about Claudius: "The more I think about history, ancient or modern, the more ironical all human affairs seem. In public opinion, expectation, and esteem no one appeared a less likely candidate for the throne than the man for whom destiny was secretly reserving it." For most Romans, Claudius' reign was a pleasant departure from the more oppressive reigns of Tiberius and Caligula, both of whom were generally disliked. Claudius seems to have been popular with the people and often with the army, but he usually was at odds with the senate, from whom he demanded hard work and dedication.



- 105 Cistophoric tetradrachm, Ephesus (?) circa 41-54. AR 11.46 g. TI CLAVD – CAES AVG Bare head l. Rev. COM – ASI Distyle temple within which Claudius stands facing, on l., holding spear and globe, being crowned by female figure standing facing on r., holding cornucopiae in l. hand. Architrave inscribed ROM ET AVG. C 3. BMC 228. RIC 120. CBN 304. Kent-Hirmer pl. 53, 186. RPC 2221.

Rare. A bold portrait and a lovely old cabinet tone, extremely fine 8'000

Ex NFA XII, 1983, 184; Superior Galleries December 1995, 878 and Áureo & Calicó 241, 2012, Imagines Imperatorum, 22 sales.

This is a recreation of a type issued under Augustus. It is exceptional for the issue. MSG.

The cistophorus would be minted under Claudius for the first time since the great coinage of this denomination by Augustus. The Claudian mintages were nowhere near as extensive and the pieces that are seen usually show significant wear indicating that they circulated heavily. RIC indicates these issues may all be commemorative in nature and were not intended to be a regular coinage for the area. Of the cistophorus issues of Claudius there are four main types: Those including Agrippina (his wife); the issues dedicated to Artemis (Diana) and her temple, as below; the issues with ROM ET AVG temple reverses; and, late in his reign the issues identifying Nero as his successor.



- 106 Cistophorus, Ephesus circa 50-51. AR 11.44 g. TI CLAVD CAES AVG AGRIPP AVGVSTA Head of Claudius and draped bust of Agrippina I., conjoined. Rev. DIANA – EPHESIA Facing standing cult statue of Diana (Artemis) Ephesia. C 1. BMC 231. RIC 119. CBN 302. RPC 2224.

Rare. Two superb portraits of fine style and a lovely old cabinet tone, good very fine 6'000

Ex Glendining 15 November 1949, 68; Glendining 26 May 1959, 191; Bruun Rasmussen 764, 2006, 5700 and Ira & Larry Goldberg 60, 2010, 2360 sales.

Claudius was the first emperor after Augustus to issue significant cistophori from the eastern mints. The types are much less frequently seen than are the issues of Augustus. They also tend to be found with more wear. Of the Claudian types for this series this is my favorite issue - with jugate busts of Claudius and Agrippina. This is a particularly nice example for the issue. MSG.



107

- 107 Sestertius circa 50-54, Æ 31.81 g. TI CLAVDIVS CAESAR AVG P M TR P IMP P P Laureate head r. Rev. EX S C P P OB CIVES SERVATOS Legend within oak wreath. C 38, BMC 185. RIC 112. CBN 207.

In exceptional condition for the issue and one of the finest sestertii of Claudius in private hands. A magnificent portrait in the finest style of the period and a lovely untouched brown patina, good extremely fine

50'000

Ex Tkalec 29 February 2008 445 and Nomos List Winter-Spring 2009, 99 sales.

I love this coin! The obverse detail is spectacular and the stylistic quality of the engraving is superb. Worth serious consideration for a builder of a high grade set of sestertii! MSG.

The first Roman emperor to have been born outside Rome, Claudius was the youngest of the three surviving children of Drusus and Antonia Minor. While still very young, Claudius became disabled after suffering an illness, which caused his family (especially his mother) to disdain him. He was not permitted in the public eye, and unlike other sons of the imperial household, he was kept out of politics. It was this same disability, however, that probably saved him from the intrigues at court that proved fatal to so many of his relatives during the reigns of Tiberius and Caligula; by the time he was elevated to the throne by the Praetorian Guard after Caligula's assassination, he was the last surviving male of his family. Despite having little experience in politics, Claudius had a keen and scholarly intellect, and soon proved himself an able administrator. He respected the senate and declined many honours traditionally bestowed on an emperor, preferring to earn them instead, and he initiated extensive public works that were necessary and beneficial. Despite his effectiveness as ruler, however, it seems Claudius possibly fell victim to the intrigues of his fourth wife, Agrippina the Younger: wanting her own son, Nero, to succeed her husband on the throne, she fed Claudius a dose of poisonous mushrooms. Or so the story goes. Seneca said that Claudius died of natural causes, and as he was already 64 at the time of his death and an alcoholic, it may be that he simply succumbed to infirmity and old age.

The portrait of Claudius on this coin is finely executed and of a very high artistic calibre, such that it exudes the essence of Julio-Claudian portraiture in the round. This is not often the case with Claudius' coin portraits: although some do exhibit a high degree of artistic merit, most lack the refined execution of style that this coin exhibits.

The reverse legend, EX S C P P OB CIVES SERVATOS, was by this time habitually confirmed by the senate and people of Rome on the emperor for saving the life of the citizenry. It harkens back to the declarations of gratitude conferred on Augustus in 27 B.C., when the senate awarded him the *corona civica* (civic wreath – here represented by the oak wreath enclosing the inscription on the reverse) and the *clipeus virtutis* (shield of valour).



108

- 108 Sestertius circa 50-54, Æ 30.42 g. TI CLAVDIVS CAESAR AVG P M TR P IMP P P Laureate head r. Rev. NERO CLAVDIVS DRVSVS GERMAN IMP Triumphal arch surmounted by equestrian statue r. between two trophies; in field, S – C. C 48. BMC 187. RIC 114. CBN 212.

Struck on a full flan and well-centred, dark tone with some minor flaws, about extremely fine

5'000

Privately purchased from David Vagi.

A coin I bought from David Vagi during his short term as a coin dealer working for R.M. Smythe. Purchased at his table at a CICF show in Chicago. MSG.

Of the several triumphal arches that Claudius built or created by modifying existing structures (such as the Aqua Virgo aqueduct), we are fortunate that some are represented on coinage he struck for himself and for his long-deceased brother, Nero Claudius Drusus. However, only the Arcus Drusi is shown on a sestertius, a coin large enough to allow us to appreciate the structure and ornamentation even down to the smallest details. First, it may be observed that there are four Ionic columns supporting the attic, which in its centre has a temple-like pediment. Next, the roof is decorated with the military emblems – trophies flanking an equestrian statue of Drusus raising a spear – whereas the façade of the attic is decorated with emblems of the priestly colleges to which Drusus must have belonged. Four different types of priestly implements are shown. The two largest are a patera at the left, a one-handled ewer (urceus) at the right, and in the centre there are smaller renderings of a simpulum within the pediment and two litui (augural staffs) to each side. The Inscriptiones Latinae Selectae 146 f. records that Drusus was augur, which is confirmed here by the presence of two litui. The patera suggests that he was one of the septemviri, the jug may relate to the flamen Dialis, and the simpulum perhaps indicates that he belonged to the priestly college of the quindecimviri Sacris Faciundis ('fifteen men for the conduct of sacred matters'). This arch spanned the Via Appia and may have been erected by Augustus not long after Drusus died in 9 B.C., or it may have been a project of either his brother Tiberius or his son Claudius. Hill suggests that the arch shown on aurei and denarii which Claudius struck in Drusus' name (to which we may add certain didrachms of Caesarea in Cappadocia) is the same as the one illustrated on this sestertius, but that on those smaller coins the image was simplified.



109



110



- 109 Contemporary imitation sestertertius 50-54, Æ 20.39 g. [TI CLAVDIVS C]AESAR AVG P M TR P IMP Laureate head r. Rev. SPES – AVGVSTA Spes, draped, advancing l., holding flower in upraised r. hand and raising skirt with l.; in exergue, S C. C 85. BMC 124. RIC 99. CBN 165.

Brown-green patina heavily tooled, otherwise very fine

250

Ex Ancient Coin Collectors Guild benefit auction.

One of the most often imitated bronze coins of the early empire is this issue from Claudius. The imitation type is relatively common and found with a wide degree of artistic styles. These coins were clearly accepted in commerce and traded freely. The wear on the example here is a testament to that fact. MSG.

Nero Caesar, 50 – 54

- 110 Cistophorus, Pergamum circa 51, AR 10.47 g. NERO CLAVD CAES DRVSO GERM Bareheaded and draped bust l. Rev. COS DES / PRINC / IVVENT inscribed on round shield within laurel wreath. C 82. BMC Claudius 236. RIC Claudius 121. CBN Claudius 307. RPC 2225.

Very rare. About very fine

1'000

Ex Emporium Hamburg sale auction 70, 2013, 103.

Tough coin to find at all and I finally bought this piece because I just couldn't find one in high grade. Hopefully this will be a nice "low budget" but rare coin for a budding collector. MSG.

Nero augustus, 54 – 68



- 111 Denarius end of 54, AR 3.66 g. [AGRIPP] AVG DIVI CLAVD NERONIS CAES MAT[ER] Confronted busts of bare-headed Nero and Agrippina II, draped with hair in long plait behind. Rev. NERONI CLAVD DIVI F CAES AVG GERM IMP TR P around oak-wreath enclosing EX S C. C 7. BMC 3. RIC 2. CBN 8.
Rare and in unusually fine condition for the issue. Two lovely portraits and a superb old cabinet tone, good very fine / about extremely fine 4*500

Ex Helios sale 4, 2009, 266. From the A. Lynn Collection

All the Nero & Agrippina issues are difficult. This coin, although with wear, has two delicately engraved portraits that I really like. It has been said that Nero was ridiculed for appearing to be kissing his mother on this coin. It is also said he recalled the issue in embarrassment after the comments were brought to his attention. This piece is a lucky survivor. I never found one better for this difficult issue. MSG.



- 112 Aureus October-December 54, AV 7.55 g. AGRIPP AVG DIVI CLAVD NERONIS CAES MATER Confronted busts of Nero, bare-headed r., and Agrippina II, draped l. Rev. NERONI CLAVD DIVI F CAES AVG GERM IMP TR P around oak wreath, enclosing EX S C. C 6. BMC 6. RIC 1. CBN 5. Calicó 399.
Very rare and among the finest specimens known. Two marvellous portraits well struck in high relief. Good extremely fine 50*000

Ex NAC sale 31, 2005, 27.

I was on the telephone with Steve Rubinger when this lot bid. I can still remember the number of "congratulations" (which I could hear over the phone) he received after we were successful with this bid. This is a really tough coin in this condition and, with the preceding lot, is likely a rare survivor from an issue Nero would probably have recalled after disposing of his mother. One of the tougher coins in the set and as good as it gets. Worthy of the finest collection! MSG.

Since early in his reign, Nero paid heed to the input of his mother, his praetorian prefect Burrus and his famous tutor the younger Seneca, making his reign a breath of fresh air. Indeed, the first three months of his reign must have seemed a great relief from the oppressions the senatorial class suffered under Claudius. Nero's first coinage was mindful of his direct family: the deified Claudius is honoured, as is his mother Agrippina Junior, who initially had regency over him. Indeed, on his first mother-son coinage, Nero's inscription is not only relegated to the reverse, but it is presented in the dedicatory dative because it applied to the wreath which comprises the design. This would seem an unfavourable comparison to his mother's inscription, which not only is on the obverse, but is in the usual nominative case, indicating that it actually was an issue of hers. However, with the succeeding jugate-bust issue of 55, Nero is clearly staking his independence as the inscriptions are reversed (Nero's is on the obverse, this time in the usual nominative, and his mother's is on the reverse). It may seem a minor change, but the Roman nobility would not have overlooked it. Inscriptions aside, the reason for the abrupt bust change from confronted to jugate may never be known. Since Nero holds the position of honor in both arrangements, there is no significance on that level. However, one might speculate that since mother and son appear ready to kiss on the confronted busts coins (rumours were rampant of Agrippina's seductive hold over her teenage son), the change might have occurred to prevent jokes at their expense.



- 113 Denarius circa January-November 55, AR 3.67 g. NERO CLAVD DIVI F CAES AVG GERM IMP TR P COS Jugate busts r. of Nero, bare-headed and with drapery at back of neck, and of Agrippina II, bare-headed and draped. Rev. AGRIPP AVG DIVI CLAVD NERONIS CAES MATER Quadriga of elephants l., bearing two chairs holding Divus Claudius, radiate r., holding eagle-tipped sceptre and Divus Augustus, radiate r., holding *patera* and sceptre; in field l., EX S C. C 4. BMC 8. RIC 7. CBN 13.
Rare. Light iridescent tone and good very fine 3'000

Privately purchased from Harlan J. Berk.

A difficult issue and almost always comes with a weak reverse. This piece is nicer than most. MSG.



- 114 Aureus circa January-November 55, AV 7.56 g. NERO CLAVD DIVI F CAES AVG GERM IMP TR P COS Conjoined busts of Nero, bare-headed, and Agrippina II, draped, r. Rev. AGRIPP AVG DIVI CLAVD NERONIS CAES MATER Quadriga of elephants l., bearing two chairs holding Divus Claudius, radiate r., holding eagle-tipped sceptre and Divus Augustus, radiate r., holding *patera* and sceptre; in l. field, EX S C. C 3. BMC 7. RIC 6. CBN 10. Calicó 397.
Very rare and an interesting representation. Two finely engraved portraits struck in high relief, about extremely fine 45'000

Ex NAC sale 64, 2012, 1116.

The last of Nero's early issues, this aureus honours mother and emperor on the obverse and the deified Claudius on the reverse: as such we may consider it a compilation of the two separate coinages of Nero's accession issue. The reverse scene is of great interest as it depicts four elephants drawing a wheeled platform with two seated figures. Clearly this is a depiction of Claudius' funeral. He was only the second emperor to be deified, and the scene is virtually identical to the one on Tiberius' sestertii dedicated to Divus Augustus. The scenes differ in that on the coins dedicated to Claudius the elephants have no riders (undoubtedly because the format was smaller) and Augustus' statue is joined by another, which we must presume to be that of his divine companion Claudius. Some have described the seated figures differently: Cohen questioned if they were Augustus and Livia, and it has also been suggested that they are Augustus and Fides Praetorianum. However, these should be dismissed considering the direct iconographic link to the Tiberian sestertii and the remark by Tacitus, who notes that Claudius' funeral "...was modeled on that of the divine Augustus...". He further relates that the senate placed his widow Agrippina in charge of his priesthood, and that in his funeral she imitated "...the grandeur of her great-grandmother Livia, the first Augusta".



115



115

- 115 Aureus 60-61, AV 7.71 g. NERO CAESAR AVG IMP Bare head r. Rev. PONTIF MAX TR P – AVG COS IIII P P Ceres, veiled and draped, standing l., holding two corn ears in r. hand and long vertical torch in l.; in field, EX – S C. C 217. BMC 25. RIC 23. CBN 31. Calicó 428. Good very fine 5'000

Ex NAC sale 64, 2012, 2507.

This is part of a succession of similar types, all datable by reverse legend, which show us Nero growing into adulthood. MSG.



116



- 116 Denarius 60-61, AR 3.67 g. NERO CAESAR AVG IMP Bare head r. Rev. PONTIF MAX – TR P VII COS IIII P P / EX – SC Roma, helmeted and in military dress, standing r. with l. foot on helmet by dagger and bow, and inscribing shield held on knee in l. hand. C 222. BMC 30. RIC 28. CBN 40 (Lugdunum). Rare. Lovely old cabinet tone and extremely fine 5'000

Ex NAC 7, 1994, 691; CNG XXXII, 1994, 361 and Triton XIV, 2011, 361 sales. From the C. K. Collection.

This coin is much tougher in silver than it is in gold. Really a nice example for the issue. MSG.



117



- 117 Aureus, Lugdunum 62-63, AV 7.72 g. NERO CAESAR AVG IMP Head bare r. Rev. PONTIF MAX TR – P VIII COS IIII P P / EX – S C Virtus standing l., placing r. foot on pile of arms on ground before her, while she balances *parazonium* on her r. knee with r. hand and holds vertical spear with l. C 229. BMC 40. RIC 36. CBN 45. Calico 435. Virtually as struck and almost Fdc 15'000

Ex Gemini sale X, 2013, 558.

For this series of coinage this is about as good as they get. MSG.



- 118 Tetradrachm, Antioch 63-64, AR 15.42 g. ΝΕΡΩΝ ΚΑΙΣΑΡ – ΣΕΒΑΣΤΟΣ Laureate bust r., wearing aegis. Rev. ΕΤΟΥ[Σ] – ΒΙΡ.Ι Eagle standing facing on thunderbolt, head r., wings spread; in r. field, palm branch. BMC 200. Priour 89. RPC 4188. McAlee 265.

In exceptional condition for the issue. Old cabinet tone and good extremely fine 2'500

Ex Sternberg XXXIV 1998, 58 and Tkalec 29 February, 2000, 242 sales.

Not a particularly rare type but very nice for the issue. MSG.



- 119 Sestertius 63, Æ 28.54 g. NERO CLAVDIVS CAESAR AVG GERM P M TR P IMP P P Laureate head r., with aegis. Rev. S – C Nero standing l. on low platform with praetorian prefect at his side, raising r. hand in address to three soldiers, of whom the two in front carry standards; in the background, the praetorian camp (?). In exergue, ADLOCVT COH. C 8. BMC – WCN 70. RIC 96. CBN 254.

Very rare and in unusually good condition for the issue. An attractive portrait struck in high relief on a full flan and a pleasant green patina, about extremely fine / good very fine

7'500

Ex NAC 18, 2000, 449 and NAC 51, 2009, 194 sales.

Along with the Port of Ostia type, this is the toughest of the Nero sestertii issues. It's nicely centered and very clean for the grade. Tough to find better. MSG.

This lovely sestertius of the Nero shows the emperor addressing (*adlocutio*) his Praetorian Guardsmen. In the background can be seen traces of a camp, in this case likely representing the Castra Praetoria, which was located just beyond the Roman boundary line to the east of the Quirinal and Viminal Hills. The specific event that is commemorated by this reverse is not known; however, Caligula also issued sestertii with this same reverse, which he used to pay the promised donatives to the Praetorian Guard, so it is logical to assume that the scene here commemorates Nero doing the same. Nero, of course, was careful to cultivate good relations with the Praetorian Guard as he owed his power principally to two of his prefects, Burrus and then Tigellinus. Additionally, the praetorians had already elevated one emperor to the throne, and perhaps Nero realized that they could just as easily remove an emperor, as indeed they were to prove on future occasions.



- 120 Sestertius circa 64, Æ 27.94 g. NERO CLAVDIVS CAESAR AVG GER P M TR P IMP P P Laureate head l. Rev. S – C Nero prancing l. on horseback, holding spear, behind him, mounted soldier prancing l., holding *vexillum* held over r. shoulder. In exergue, DECVRSTO. C 84. BMC 152. WCN 115. RIC 166. CBN –.

Rare. A vigorous portrait well struck in high relief on a full flan and a finely engraved reverse die. A very attractive brown-green patina and extremely fine

12'500

Ex NAC sale 72, 2013, 611.

This issue with the horses prancing left is slightly rarer than the horse prancing right. A nice complete and clean coin worthy of serious consideration. MSG.



- 121 Dupondius circa 64, Æ 14.64 g. NERO CLAVD CAESAR AVG GER P M TR P IMP P P Radiate head r. Rev. MAC – AVG / S – C View of the Macellum of Nero, consisting of a rounded central part with a domed roof, a statue of Neptune on the ground floor and a gallery on the upper story. on l. and r., projecting two-story colonnaded wings; below, II. C 130. BMC –. WCN 203. RIC 184. CBN 318

Rare and in exceptional condition for the issue. Lovely green patina and good extremely fine

7'500

Ex Nomos Fixed Price list Winter-Spring 2009, 100.

Nero spent most of his life (and money) building the Domus Aurea (golden house). One of the few public projects which he was responsible for was the Macellum Magnum shown on this coin (he also completed the Port of Ostia but that project was largely completed by Claudius before he became emperor). This structure was a large market ostensibly for fish sales to the elite for their lavish dinner parties. The common man likely didn't have the funds to purchase anything here. Just another reason for the plebs to grow weary of Nero. This is as good as they get for the issue. I have never seen another that comes close to the quality of this piece. Worthy of the finest collection! MSG.



- 122 Dupondius circa 64, Æ 13.30 g. NERO CLAVD CAESAR AVG GER P M TR P IMP P Laureate head l. Rev. VICTORIA - AVGVSTI / S - C Victory walking l., holding wreath; below, mark of value II. C 346 var. (globe at point of bust). BMC -, cf. 350 (Lugdunum, globe at point of bust). RIC-, cf. 196 (for reverse type). CBN -. A wonderful untouched enamel like green patina and extremely fine 4'500

Ex CNG sale 76, 2007, 1399.



- 124 Sestertius Lugdunum circa 65, Æ 25.85 g. NERO CLAVD CAESAR AVG GER P M TR IMP P P Laureate bust l. with globe at point of bust. Rev. S - C Triumphal arch decorated with friezes of battle scenes surmounted by statue of emperor in quadriga accompanied by Pax and Victory, flanked by two soldiers; inside niche of arch, a nude statue of helmeted Mars. C 306. BMC 330. WCN 429. RIC 433. CBN 69. A very appealing portrait struck in high relief and an exceptionally detailed reverse. Dark tone and good extremely fine 20'000

Ex Triton sale IV, 2000, 476. From the collection of Phillip De Vicci.

Along with the Temple of Janus this issue comes with a wide range of engraving detail on the reverse design. Here is a wonderful representation of the arch on the reverse. Overall the coin is just superb. They don't come any better. Worthy of the finest collection. MSG.



125

- 125 Sestertius Lugdunum circa 65, Æ 25.43 g. NERO CLAVD CAESAR AVG GER P M TR P IMP P P Laureate head r., with globe at point of bust. Rev. PACE P R TERRA MARIQ PARTA IANVM CLVSIT / S - C View of the temple of Janus, door to r., decorated with garland. C 146. BMC 319. WCN 419. RIC 438. CBN 73. Struck on a full flan and with an exceptionally well-detailed reverse.
A lovely untouched green patina, good extremely fine 40'000

Ex Triton VI, 2003, 823; Tkalec 2006, 134 and NAC 54, 2010, Luc Girard, 345 sales.

Wow! That was my first reaction to this coin when I saw it. Today my first reaction is still WOW! This is a wonderful depiction of the Temple of Janus and overall I would say this is one of the best sestertii in my collection. The portrait of Nero is simply amazing! And then there is that hard green patina that is so rare. It's really a wonderful coin and worthy of the finest collection. MSG.

The Temple dedicated to Janus, the god of beginnings and endings, was one of Rome's most ancient. The sources indicate it was a rather small temple consisting of two archways with doors that were joined by side-walls. Its location is not known perhaps because the foundation was small enough to have been obscured by subsequent construction.

It was believed that Romulus built the temple after he made peace with the Sabines, and that king Numa decreed its doors should be opened during war and shut during times of peace. Its doors had been closed perhaps five or six times in all Roman history prior to the reign of Nero: under the legendary king Numa (to whom the tradition is traced), at the end of the Second Punic War, three times under Augustus, and, according to Ovid, once under Tiberius.

Thus, when in 65 peace generally had been established on the empire's fronts, Nero did not hesitate to close the temple's doors. He marked the event with great celebrations and struck a large and impressive series of coins to document this rare event. The inscription, IANVM CLVSIT PACE P R TERRA MARIQ PARTA, is one of the most instructive on all Roman coins, for it announces "the doors of Janus have been closed after peace has been procured for the Roman People on the land and on the sea".

In relation to this, Suetonius (Nero 15) describes the visit to Rome of Tiridates, Rome's candidate for the throne of Armenia. Nero crowned Tiridates, was hailed Imperator and "...after dedicating a laurel-wreath in the Capitol, he closed the double doors of the Temple of Janus, as a sign that all war was at an end."

Despite Nero's contentment with affairs on the borders, the year 65 was not happy on the home front as much of Rome was still in ashes from the great fire of the previous year, Nero narrowly survived the Pisonian conspiracy, and not long afterward he kicked his pregnant wife Poppaea to death.



127



126



127

- 126 Semis circa 66, Æ 5.40 g. IMP NERO CAESAR AVG Bare head r. Rev. PONTIF MAX – TR POT PP Roma seated l. with wreath and *parazonium*; in exergue, S C. C –. BMC 403 var. (head l.). WCN 621. RIC 550. CBN –. Very rare. Green patina and about extremely fine / good very fine 500

Ex CNG sale 49, 1999, 1344.

- 127 Sestertius circa 66, Æ 24.44 g. IMP NERO CLAUD CAESAR AVG GER P M TR P P P Laureate head with slight beard l. Rev. S – C Roma seated l. on cuirass, holding Victory and *parazonium*; behind her, two shields and in exergue, ROMA. C 271. BMC –. WCN 163. RIC 330. CBN 417. Brown-green patina gently smoothed, otherwise good very fine 1'500

Privately purchased from CNG.



128



128

- 128 Sestertius, Lugdunum circa 67, Æ 22.27 g. IMP NERO CAESAR AVG P MAX TR P P P Laureate head r., with globe at point of neck. Rev. S – C Roma, helmeted and in military attire, seated l. on cuirass, holding Victory in r. hand and l. resting on *parazonium*; behind, three shields. In exergue, ROMA. C 266. BMC 326. WCN 477. RIC 591. CBN –. Tiber tone, surface somewhat granular, otherwise extremely fine 2'500

Privately purchased from Roma Numismatics.



129

- 129 Mirror casing in two parts, styled after a Lugdunum sestertius issue of circa 67, Æ 68.43 g.. IMP NERO CAESAR AVG P MAX TR POT P P Laureate head r., globe at point of bust. Rev. D[ECVRSI]O / S – C Nero on horseback riding r. holding spear; behind him, soldier on horseback r., holding *vexillum*. On such mirrors, see Paul-André Besombes, "Les miroirs de Néron," *RN* 153 (1998), pp. 119-40, and especially his Type I, no. 6. For prototype: RIC 581.

Rare. Light chipping and a few holes on the exterior, otherwise very fine

7'500

Ex Triton sale XVII, 2014, 655.

Neronian mirrors are discussed at length by P.-A. Besombes, "Les miroirs de Néron," *RN* 153 (1998), pp. 119-40. Besombes argues that Neronian mirrors, which were either made with sestertii or styled after sestertii, were part of the emperor's overall religious policy associating himself and the emperorship with the divinity of the sun god, Sol (Helios): the image of Nero is at the centre of the mirror, the concentric circles surrounding him representing the celestial sphere as the ancients conceived the heavens, just as Sol is at the centre of the universe. According to Besombes, the mirrors would have been presented as gifts to influential citizens and dignitaries during public spectacles. Despite the speculative nature of Besombes' argument, Nero did in fact see himself as the god personified, as illustrated by his likeness on the great 100-foot-tall bronze Colossus that he built in order to ornament the vestibule of his great imperial villa complex on the Palatine Hill, the Domus Aurea.



130

- 130 Denarius circa 64-68, AR 3.43 g. NERO CAESAR – AVGVSTVS Laureate head r. Rev. AVGVSTVS – AVGVSTA Nero, radiate and togate, holding long sceptre and *patera*, standing l. beside empress, veiled and draped, holding *patera* and cornucopiae. C 43. BMC 54. RIC 45. CBN 201.

In unusually fine condition for the issue, light iridescent tone and good extremely fine / extremely fine

4'500



- 131 Aureus circa 64-68, AV 7.31 g. NERO CAESAR – AVGVSTVS Laureate head r. Rev. AVGVSTVS – AVGVSTA Nero, radiate and togate, holding long sceptre and *patera*, standing l. beside empress, veiled and draped, holding *patera* and cornucopiae. C 42. BMC 52. RIC 44. CBN 200. Calicó 401.

In exceptional condition for this very difficult issue. Well struck
and centred on a full flan. Extremely fine

12'500

Privately purchased from Harlan J. Berk.



- 132 Denarius circa 67-68, AR 3.27 g. IMP NERO CAESAR – AVG P P Laureate head r. Rev. RO – MA Roma seated l. on cuirass, r. foot on helmet, holding Victory in outstretched r. hand and *parazonium* in l.; behind, round and oblong shields. C 259. BMC 86. RIC 70. CBN 240.

Rare. Light iridescent tone and about extremely fine

1'500

Ex Gorny & Mosch 121, 2003, 394 and Triton XII, 2009, 562 sales. From the White Mountain Collection.

The Civil Wars, 68 – 69



- 133 Denarius, Gaul 68-69, AR 3.78 g. SALVS GENERIS – HVMANI Victory standing l. on globe holding wreath in outstretched r. hand and palm branch in l. Rev. S P Q R within oak wreath. C 420. BMC 34. RIC 72. Martin 77. CBN 37.

Rare and in exceptional condition for the issue. Struck on unusually fresh
metal, wonderful old cabinet tone and good very fine

2'500

Privately purchased from Freeman & Scar.



- 134 Denarius, Uncertain mint in Spain or Gaul 68-69, AR 3.93 g. CAESAR – [A]VGUSTVS Bare head of Augustus r. Rev. S P Q R / CL-V; below, two palm branches, all set upon round shield. C 295. RIC 108. Martin A34. CBN 60.

Exceedingly rare, apparently only the fifth specimen known and the only one in private hands. Old cabinet tone and good very fine 10'000

Ex Triton II, 1998, 834 and CNG 271, 2012, Property of Princeton Economics acquired by Martin Armstrong, 74 sales.



- 135 Aureus, Spain and Gaul (?) 68, AV 7.25 g. DIVVS – AVGVSTVS Radiate head of Augustus r. Rev. PAX Pax standing l., holding caduceus in r. hand, corn ears and poppies in l. C –. BMC –. RIC 114. Martin A24B (these dies). CBN 65. Calicó 454 (these dies). Villaronga Benages 4127 (this coin).

Extremely rare and an issue of tremendous fascination and historical importance. Light traces of edge filing and a graffito on obverse field, otherwise very fine 25'000

Nfa XVIII, 1987, 445 and Rauch 50, 1993 234 sales.

In early A.D. 68, the governor of Gallia Lugdunensis, Gaius Julius Vindex, rose in open revolt against the regime in Rome. Perhaps he had had enough of excessive taxes, or he may simply have felt threatened. Whatever the case, the leadership under Nero was one of incompetence and mismanagement, and the threads of government had unraveled. Vindex, himself one of the 'new-men' (*homines novi*) whose family had only received Roman citizenship in the previous generation, was ineligible for the throne due to his status. He therefore allied with Galba, the governor of Hispania Tarraconensis and a blue-blooded patrician of veritable heritage, thus setting the stage for a change of regime and the end of the Julio-Claudian dynasty. Soon Nero was dead, having ended his life by his own hand, and Galba was hailed emperor in his stead.

During the tumultuous period at the beginning of the 'Year of the Four Emperors', as this episode in Roman history later became known, and again in early A.D. 69 when Vitellius rose in revolt, a plethora of coinage was issued by many of the principal actors, with mints located in Spain, Gaul, Germany, Northern Italy, and even Africa. In the main, the coin types served as propaganda for the various factions fighting the war. In addition to themes of Justice and Liberty, they often portray the loyalty of the legions and praetorians, although some harken back to the security of earlier times. The lovely 'anonymous' aureus offered here is one of the latter, recalling the issues of Divus Augustus struck under Gaius Caligula: although the legend is shortened, the portrait even retains some of the features of that deranged emperor.

Galba, 68 – 69



- 136 Denarius July 68 – January 69, AR 3.45 g. IMP SER GALBA AVG Bare head r. Rev. S P Q R / OB / CS in oak wreath. C 287. BMC 34 (misdescribed). RIC 167. CBN 76.
A bold portrait and a lovely old cabinet tone. Extremely fine 4'000
Ex Antiqua sale IX, 2000, 94.



- 137 Denarius, Tarraco (?) circa April to late 68, AR 3.62 g. GALBA – IMP Laureate head r. with globe at point of bust. Rev. VIRTUS Virtus standing l., holding Victory and *parazonium*. C 336. BMC –. RIC –, cf. 32 (Virtus nude). CBN 34.
Very rare and in exceptional condition for this difficult issue. An interesting and unusual portrait struck in high relief and a light iridescent tone, about extremely fine 4'500

Ex Aureo & Calicó sale 241, 2012, *Imagines Imperatorum*, 48.

This is a highly idealized bust of Galba that shows the features typical of many Spanish mint coins. Here the concept of Virtue was used at a time when its quality still applied to the hopeful ruler. The coin is much better than the photo. If I was going to add only one Galba denarius to my collection this would be the one I would pick. It's really a great coin! MSG.



- 138 Denarius, Gaul April to late Autumn 68, AR 3.67 g. SER GALBA – IMPERATOR Laureate head r. Rev. VICTORIA – P R Draped Victory standing facing on globe, head l., holding wreath and palm branch. C 322. BMC 227. RIC 111. CBN –.

Rare and in exceptional condition for the issue, possibly the finest specimen known. A strong portrait and a magnificent iridescent tone, virtually as struck and almost Fdc

5'000

Privately purchased from CNG.



139

- 139 Sestertius June 68, Æ 25.79 g. IMP SER GALBA – AVG TR P Oak-wreathed and draped bust r. Rev. S – C Victory alighting r., holding wreath in r. hand and palm branch over shoulder in l. C –. RIN 1911, p. 152, 4. BMC p. 325, note. RIC 251. Kent-Himer pl. 59, 210 (for reverse type). CBN –.

Extremely rare and among the finest sestertii of Galba in existence. A magnificent portrait of great strength in the finest style of the period. A wonderful untouched brown-Tiber tone and extremely fine

65'000

Ex Waddell 2, 1987, 496; Leu 52, 1991, 171, NAC 7, 1994, 695 and NAC 51, 2009, 205 sales. From the William J. Conte Collection.

This is a great coin and one I will have the most trouble parting with. One of the nicest portraits of Galba I have ever seen in stunningly high grade. Worthy of consideration for the finest collection! MSG.

The portrait on this fine sestertius of Galba is of extraordinary quality by a master-engraver, depicting the elderly emperor as a stern aristocrat of raw virtue. His expression is set in grim determination, and the oak-wreath resting on his head is so carefully articulated that the whole appears remarkably life-like. Contrasting with the depth of realism seldom reached in Roman numismatics of the obverse, the figure of Victory on the reverse, with her soft, youthful contours, is one imbued with a hopeful spirit.

However noble the message of the reverse of this coin, Tacitus records that Galba was only worthy of the empire before becoming emperor. His shortcomings were his severity and stinginess. While the latter was perhaps a legitimate 'vice' considering Nero's carefree spending on frivolous projects which had depleted the Roman treasury and which caused Galba to levy enormous taxes on those areas of the empire that had been slow to receive him, he also refused most requests for citizenship out-of-hand, however well deserved, and had a number of men sentenced to death without trial. Additionally, he soon came under the control of his co-consul, the praetorian prefect, and a freedman, which further eroded his popularity. His death sentence, however, were his refusals to honour the reward promised on his behalf to the praetorians for their defection of Nero during his long march on Rome, and his spurning of the loyal Otho for Piso as his successor. Galba rightly felt that soldiers should not be bribed, but the rot that had begun when Claudius paid the guardsmen after his elevation had been long established by the late 60s, and the praetorians turned against their emperor, hailing Otho emperor on 15 January A.D. 69. Galba was executed and decapitated by praetorians near Lacus Curtius, the mysterious open chasm near the Roman Forum.



140



141



- 140 As, circa June-August 68, Æ 8.13 g. IMP SER GALBA – AVG TR P Laureate head r. Rev. CERES – AVGVSTA Ceres, draped, seated l. holding grain ear and poppy in extended r. hand and caduceus in l.; in exergue, S C. C 17 var. (Ceres holding two corn ears). BMC 140 note. RIC –, cf. 291 obverse / 292 reverse. CBN cf. 155 (Ceres holding two corn ears).

Very rare. Dark green patina somewhat smoothed, otherwise good very fine

1'000

Ex CNG sale 49, 1999, 1497.

- 141 Dupondius circa October 68, Æ 13.67 g. SER GALBA IMP CAESAR AVG TR P Laureate head r. Rev. FELICITAS – PVBLICA / S – C Felicitas draped, standing l. holding caduceus in r. hand and cornucopiae in l. C 67. BMC 120, RIC 411, CBN 213.

A bold portrait and a pleasant brown tone. Good very fine

1'500

Ex Ira & Larry Goldberg sale 72, 2013, Hunter, 4424.



142



- 142 Denarius July 68 - January 69, AR 3.55 g. [IMP SER] GALBA – CAESAR AVG Laureate head r. Rev. DIVA – AVGVSTA Livia standing l., holding *patera* and sceptre. C 55. BMC 8. RIC 186. CBN 84.

Rare Light iridescent tone and extremely fine

3'000

Privately purchased from Ponterio.



143



- 143 Denarius Tarraco (?) circa April to late 68, AR 3.50 g. P·SER·GALBA·IMP·CAESAR·AVG·P·M·TR Laureate head r. Rev. CONCORDIA – PROVINCIA RVM Concordia, draped, standing l. holding branch in r. hand and cornucopiae in l. C 38. BMC 223 (Gaul). RIC 54. CBN 58 (Gaul).

Extremely rare and in unusually fine condition for the issue. Extremely fine

3'500

Ex Roma sale V, 2013, 700.

Otho, 15 January – mid April 69



144



144

- 144 Denarius before 9th March 69, AR 3.32 g. IMP OTHO CAESAR AVG TR P Bare head r. Rev. SECVRI – TAS P R Securitas standing l., holding wreath and sceptre. C 15. BMC 19. RIC 10. CBN 11.
A portrait of superb style and a lovely iridescent tone. A minor abrasion at twelve o'clock on reverse field and an area of weakness on reverse, otherwise extremely fine / about extremely fine 2'000

Ex CNG sale 49, 1999, lot 1503



145



- 145 Denarius 15th January-April 69, AR 3.34 g. IMP OTHO CAESAR AVG TR P Bare head r. Rev. PAX ORBIS – TERRARVM Pax, dressed, standing l., holding branch in r. hand and caduceus in l. C –, cf. 3 (IMP M). BMC –, cf. 4 (head l.). RIC –, cf. 5 (aureus). CBN –, cf. 3 (IMP M).
Extremely rare. A magnificent portrait well struck in high relief and an attractive iridescent tone, minor area of weakness on reverse, otherwise virtually as struck and almost Fdc 7'500

Privately purchased from Harlan J. Berk.



146



- 146 Tetradrachm, Antiochia January-March 69, AR 15.03 g. ΑΥΤΟΚΡΑΤΩΡ Μ ΟΘΩΝ ΚΑΙCΑΡ CΕΒΑCΤΟC Laureate head r. Rev. Eagle standing l. with spread wings; below crescent and branch in its talons; below ΕΤΟΥCΑ. RPC 4199, McAlee 316. Prieur 101.
Struck on a full flan and good very fine 2'000

Ex CNG 15, 1991, 391 and CNG 90, 2012, 1098 sales.

Vitellius, January – December 69



- 147 Denarius circa late April-20 December 69, AR 3.41 g. A VITELLIVS GERM IMP AVG TR P Bare head r. Rev. XV VIR – SACR FAC Tripod with dolphin set on top and raven standing r. below. C 115. BMC 3. RIC 70. CBN –. Lovely iridescent tone and good extremely fine 5'000



- 148 Aureus circa late April-20 December 69, AV 7.35 g. A VITELLIVS GERMAN IMP TR P Laureate head r. Rev. CONCOR – DIA P R Concordia seated left holding *patera* and cornucopia. C 19. BMC 6. RIC 72. CBN –. Hurter 9 (this coin). Calicó 543 (this obverse die).
Rare. An interesting portrait well struck on a full flan and extremely fine 40'000

Ex M&M 37, 1968, 300 and LHS 97, 2006, 9 sales.

Had the strange and unpredictable tides of civil war not intervened in the life of Aulus Vitellius, he probably would have remained unknown to history, except, perhaps, for the chance discovery of his tombstone. Instead, Galba appointed him governor of Lower Germany late in 68 with the intent of removing him from the capital, and once there Vitellius was swept into power at the head of an insubordinate army intent on marching to Rome to collect their unpaid bonus.

As the uprising gained momentum the emperor whom the legions intended to threaten, Galba, was overthrown by his subordinate Otho, who was doomed to a very brief reign. Already en route, the German legions decided to continue, and after they had triumphed in a bloody contest with Otho's army in Northern Italy the senate hailed their candidate Augustus. Vitellius was still in Gaul with the remainder of his troops when he learned of the victory and the actions of the senate, and he celebrated upon reaching the provincial capital of Lugdunum.

He then continued on to Italy and joined the advance legions, leading his 60,000 men on a leisurely march toward Rome that occupied more than a month. Upon arriving he remained in office for eight chaotic months until armies loyal to a new contender, Vespasian, marched on Rome and caused his overthrow.



- 149 Denarius circa late April-December 69, AR 3.24 g. A VITELLIVS GERMANICVS IMP Bare head r. Rev. FIDES / EXERCITVM Two clasped r. hands. C 36. BMC 2. RIC 67. CBN 33.

Rare and in exceptional condition for the issue. A very attractive portrait and a superb tone. Good extremely fine

7'500

Ex NAC sale 59, 2011, 937.



- 150 Sestertius circa late April-20 December 69, Æ 26.69 g. A VITELLIVS GERMANICVS IMP AVG P M TR P Laureate and draped bust r. Rev. MARS – VICTOR / S – C Mars, in military attire and with *parazonium* at side, advancing l. holding Victory in outstretched r. hand and *aquila* in l. C 56 var. (GERMAN IMP). BMC –, cf. 53 note. RIC 137 var. (GERMAN IMP). CBN –, cf. 105.

Rare. Tiber tone and very fine

2'500

Privately purchased from CNG.



- 151 Denarius circa late April-20 December 69, AR 3.21 g. A VITELLIVS GERMANICVS IMP Bare head r. Rev. Victory, draped, seated l., holding palm branch in l. hand and *patera* in outstretched r. C 121. BMC 4. RIC 71. CBN 37.

Lovely iridescent tone and good very fine

3'000

Ex Roma Numismatics sale V, 2013, 706.



152

- 152 Dupondius circa late April-20 December 69, Æ 13.93 g. A VITELLIVS GERMAN IMP AVG P M TR P Laureate head r. Rev. PAX – AVGVSTI / S – C Pax, draped, standing l. holding branch in r. hand and cornucopiae in l. C 64. BMC 66. RIC 146. CBN –, Mazzini 64 (This Coin).

Very rare and in exceptional condition for the issue, possibly the finest dupondius of Vitellius in private hands. A magnificent portrait well struck in high relief and a brown-green patina gently smoothed on reverse, good extremely fine

60'000

Ex Hess-Leu 29 March 1961, ESR 92; Antiqua II, 1975, 33; NAC-Spink Taisei, 16 November 1994, Gilbert Steinberg, 279; Leu 18, 1977, 307 and Goldberg 72, 2013, Hunter, 4139 sales. From the Mazzini Collection.

I didn't have the money to buy this coin when it appeared in Antiqua II. For years I lamented the fact that I let this coin go. When I saw it in Ira's case at an ANA show I knew immediately what coin it was. I didn't let it get away a second time. This may be one of the best surviving bronzes of the entire twelve Caesars set in existence. This piece is worthy of the finest collections. Simply stunning! MSG.



153

- 153 Denarius, uncertain Spanish mint, Tarraco (?) circa January-July 69, AR 3.51 g. A VITELLIVS – IMP GERMAN Laureate head r. with globe at point of bust. Rev. CONSENSVS – EXERCITVVM Mars, helmeted and naked but for cloak, advancing l. holding Aquila in l. hand and spear in r. C 28 var. (without mention of globe). BMC 110. RIC 25. CBN 7.

Very rare and in exceptional condition for the issue. Struck on a very broad flan and with a lovely iridescent tone. Extremely fine

6'000

Ex Aureo & Calicó sale 241, 2012, Images Imperatorum, 51.

If I was only going to have one Vitellius denarius in my collection this would be the one I would pick. A stunning piece. MSG.



- 154 As, uncertain Spanish mint Tarraco (?) circa January-June 69, Æ 9.72 g. A VITELLIVS – IMP GERMAN Laureate head l. Rev. CONSENSVS – EXERCITVVM / S – C Mars, helmeted and naked but for cloak, advancing l. holding Aquila in l. hand and spear in r. C 25. BMC 99. RIC 40. CBN 16.

Dark tone and about extremely fine 1'500

Ex NAC sale 5, 1992, 435. Privately purchased from Freeman & Sear.

Vespasian, 69 – 79



- 155 Denarius 69-71, AR 3.30 g. IMP CAESAR VESPASIANVS AVG Laureate head r. Rev. Jewess seated r. on ground, in attitude of mourning; behind her, trophy. In exergue, IVDAEA. C 226. BMC 35. RIC 15. Hendin 759. CBN 23.

In unusually fine condition for the issue. Light iridescent tone and extremely fine 2'000

Ex Gemini sale IV, 2008, 404.



- 156 Aureus, Lugdunum circa 70, AV 7.39 g. IMP CAESAR VESPASIANVS AVG TR P Laureate head r. Rev. COS ITER – TR POT Neptune standing l., r. foot on prow, holding dolphin in extended r. hand and trident in l. C 92. BMC 374. RIC 1109. CBN 290. Calicó 611 (this coin illustrated). Biaggi 304 (This Coin).

Rare. Well struck and centred on a full flan, light reddish tone and extremely fine 18'000

Ex Glendining's sale November 16-21 1950, Platt Hall II, 1155. From the Biaggi collection.

Both historians and citizens openly criticised Vespasian – the son of a man who made a fortune as a tax collector in Asia for his stinginess, but this proved to be an essential quality for an emperor in his troubled times. Suetonius (Vesp 16.3) reports that Vespasian claimed he needed 400 million aurei (10 billion denarii) to “...put the country back on its feet again”. As a result of his close attention to finance, Vespasian struck aurei in large quantities, and unlike most of his predecessors, he employed a wide variety of reverse types. For generations researchers have recognised that many of Vespasian’s reverse types recall types from earlier reigns, most especially those from the age of Augustus. Attempts have been made to connect his ‘Augustan’ types with the centenaries of the Battle of Actium (ending in 70) and the ‘foundation’ of the empire (ending in 74), but all seem to have failed, as the relevant types are strewn throughout Vespasian’s ten-year reign. It is perhaps better to view his recycling of types as a political strategy favoured by Vespasian and Titus, but subsequently abandoned by Domitian. In this case we have a depiction of the sea-god Neptune that certainly is derived from Octavian’s pre-Imperial coinage struck in commemoration of Actium.



- 157 Dupondius 71, Æ 12.95 g. IMP CAES VESPASIAN AVG COS III Radiate head r. Rev. CONCORDIA – AVGUSTI Concordia seated l., holding cornucopiae in l. arm and *patera* over altar in r.; in exergue, S C. C 71. BMC 588. RIC 265. CBN 566.

A lovely enamel like dark green patina gently smoothed, otherwise extremely fine

3'000

Ex NAC sale 23, 2002, 1509. Privately purchased from Freeman and Sear.

A very nice piece. It would be tough to find one better! MSG.



- 158 Denarius, Ephesus 71, AR 3.31 g. IMP CAESAR VESPAS AVG COS III TR P P P Laureate head r. Rev. LIBERI IMP / AVG VESPAS Confronted bare heads of Titus facing r. and Domitian facing l.; between, EPHE (PHE ligate). C 2. BMC 455. RIC 1429. CBN 347. RPC 831.

Very rare. Three very impressive portraits and a lovely light iridescent tone, good extremely fine

5'000

Ex Triton sale VI, 2003, 838.



159

- 159 Sestertius circa 71, AE 25.72 g. IMP CAES VESPASIAN AVG P M TR P P P COS III Laureate head r. Rev. IVDAEA CAPTA Jewess seated r. on cuirass under palm tree in attitude of mourning; behind palm, Jew standing r., hands tied behind back; in field l., pile of arms. In exergue, S C. C 234 var. (CAESAR). BMC corr. 533 (no spear before Jewess, this reverse die). RIC 424. Hendin 773. CBN cf. 490 (no spear before Jewess).

Very rare and in superb condition for the issue. Well-struck and centred on full flan and with a lovely enamel-like green patina gently smoothed, otherwise extremely fine

30'000

Ex Triton sale VIII, 2005, 1007. From the Michael Weller Collection.

A great example from the Judaea Capta series. A really nice coin worthy of the finest collections. MSG.

Vespasian's greatest military triumph was the war he and his son Titus waged in Judaea at the end of Nero's reign. The campaign was so difficult that the Flavians celebrated its conclusion with triumphal processions, games, a triumphal arch and an uncommonly extensive series of coins. This sestertius is one of the most remarkable examples to have survived, with even the smallest details perfectly preserved. Most impressive is the miniature portrait of Vespasian on the obverse, the engraving of which would have tested the skills of even the most gifted artist. With dual sympathies the chronicler Josephus wrote an in-depth narrative of the Roman campaign in Judaea. We are told of great suffering by both Jews and Romans, though in the final analysis the Jews bore the lion's share of the consequences. The Roman dead numbered in the tens of thousands, and Josephus counts the number of Jewish dead in the millions, with most having succumbed to famine or pestilence. Josephus describes what the Romans encountered when they breached the walls of Jerusalem and began to search the subterranean portion of the city: "So horrible was the stench from the bodies which met the intruders, that many instantly withdrew, but others penetrated further through avarice, trampling over heaps of corpses; for many precious objects were found in these passages..." In the aftermath, Josephus reports that the Romans "...selected the tallest and most handsome of the youth and reserved each of them for the triumph; of the rest, those over seventeen years of age he sent in chains to the mines in Egypt, while multitudes were presented by Titus to the various provinces, to be destroyed in the theatres by the sword or by wild beasts; those under seventeen were sold."



- 160 Sestertius 71. Æ 23.45 g. IMP CAES VESPAS AVG P M TR P P P COS III Laureate head r. Rev. S – C Mars, naked but for cloak over l. shoulder, advancing r., holding spear in r. hand and trophy over l. shoulder. C 440. BMC 568. RIC 247. CBN 538.

A bold portrait and an artistic reverse die. A delicate untouched green patina with some minor porosity on obverse, otherwise extremely fine

10*000

Ex NAC sale 72, 2013, 625.

The reverse type of Mars advancing (and likely an image of Mars Ultor) is common to all three Flavians. The representation of Mars is different from the Augustan types but likely has a similar inference – here being that of avenging the rebellion of the Jews. Even so the connection to earlier Augustan issues was probably well recognized at the time. Here both sides are very delicately engraved and the detail on the reverse is outstanding. MSG.



- 161 Denarius 72-73. AR 3.58 g. IMP CAES VESP – AVG P M COS IIII Laureate head r. Rev. VES – TA Vesta standing l. holding *simpulum* in r. hand and sceptre in l. C 574. BMC 71. RIC 360. CBN 55.

Light iridescent tone, virtually as struck and almost Fdc

2*500

Privately purchased from CNG.



- 162 Denarius 72-73. AR 3.54 g. IMP CAES VESP AVG P M COS IIII Laureate head r. Rev. AVGVR / TRI POT Priestly implements. C 45. BMC 64. RIC 356. CBN 49.

A very unusual and interesting portrait. Good extremely fine

2*000

Privately purchased from Ed Waddell in January 2014.



163



164



163

- 163 Sestertius 72-73, Æ 26.32 g. IMP CAES VESPAS AVG P M TR P P V COS IIII Laureate head r. Rev. Vespasian riding r., spearing fallen foe; in exergue, S C. C 474 var. BMC cf. 622. RIC 386 var. CBN 610 var.
Very rare. Dark tone heavily tooled, slightly corroded and obverse legend partially re-engraved, otherwise very fine 2'500
Ex Rauch 51, 1993, 201; Hirsch 183, 1994, 1003; Gorny & Mosch 170, 2008, 2059 and NAC 54, March 2010, 1069 sales.

- 164 Denarius 77-78, AR 3.15 g. CAESAR – VESPASIANVS AVG Laureate head r. Rev. ANNONA – AVG Annona seated l. on throne, holding sack of corn ears. C 28. BMC 295. RIC 964. CBN 258.
Wonderful iridescent tone and good very fine 500
Privately purchased from Pegasi Coins.



165



- 165 *Divus Vespasianus*. Denarius 80-81, AR 3.48 g. DIVVS AVGVSTVS VESPASIANVS Laureate head r. Rev. E – X Urn upon column mounted with shield inscribed S C and flanked by two laurel branches. C 149. BMC Titus 125. RIC Titus 359. CBN Titus 98.
Wonderful old cabinet tone and good extremely fine 1'500
Ex Triton VI, 2003, 841 and Triton XII, 2009, 576 sales. From the White Mountain Collection.

Titus caesar, 69 – 79



166



- 166 Aureus 73, AV 7.31 g. T CAESAR IMP – VESP CENS Laureate head r. Rev. PONTIF – TRI POT Titus seated r. on curule chair holding sceptre and branch. C 168. BMC Vespasian 114. RIC Vespasian 555. CBN Vespasian 95. Calicó 753.
A lovely portrait well struck on a very large flan and extremely fine 15'000
Privately purchased from CNG.



- 167 As 77-78, Æ 11.21 g. T CAESAR VESPASIANVS TR P COS VI Laureate head r. Rev. VICTORIA – AVGVST / S – C Victory standing r. on prow, holding palm branch in l. hand and wreath in upraised r. C 364. BMC Vespasian 742. RIC Vespasian 1035. CBN Vespasian 787.
Lovely green patina and good very fine / about extremely fine 2'500

Ex NFA XII, 1983, 227; NFA XX, 1988, 149 and Gemini IV, 2008, 409 sales.

Titus augustus, 79 – 81



- 168 Denarius circa 1st January-30th June 80, AR 3.62 g. IMP TITVS CAES VESPASIAN AVG P M Laureate head with slight beard r. Rev. TR P IX IMP XV COS VIII P P Wreath on curule chair. C 318. BMC 66. RIC 108. CBN 53.
Light iridescent tone and extremely fine 1'250

Privately purchased from Harlan J. Berk.



- 169 Denarius 1st January-30th June 80, AR 3.68 g. IMP TITVS CAES VESPASIAN AVG P M Laureate head r. Rev. TR P IX IMP XV – COS VIII P P Dolphin coiled around anchor. C 309. BMC 72. RIC 112. CBN 60.
A bold portrait and a lovely light iridescent tone, good extremely fine 2'000

Ex Triton I, 1997, 1384 and Triton XIV, 2011, 681 sales. From the C.K. Collection.



- 170 Denarius 1 January-30 June 80, AR 3.05 g. IMP TITVS CAES VESPASIAN AVG P M Laureate head with slight beard r. Rev. TR P IX IMP XV – COS VIII P P Tripod with fillets; above, dolphin. C 321. BMC 78. RIC 128. CBN 66. Light iridescent tone and extremely fine 1'000

Privately purchased from Roma Numismatics.



- 171 Sestertius, Eastern mint, Thrace (?) 80-81, Æ 26.10 g. IMP T CAES DIVI VESP F A – VG P M TR P P P COS VIII Laureate head r. Rev. S – C Mars, naked but for cloak, advancing r. holding spear in r. hand and trophy over shoulder with l. C 203. BMC 310. RIC 499. CBN 324. RPC 502.

An impressive portrait well-struck on a full flan and a pleasant brown tone. Extremely fine 10'000

Ex Gorny & Mosch sale 169, 2008, 275.



- 172 Denarius 80, AR 3.29 g. IMP TITVS CAES VESPASIAN AVG P M Laureate head r. Rev. TR P IX IMP XV COS VIII P P Elephant walking l. C 303. BMC 43. RIC 115. CBN 37.
Lovely old cabinet tone and about extremely fine 750

Privately purchased from Ed Waddell.



- 173 As 80-81. Æ 11.37 g. IMP T CAES VESP AVG P M TR P COS VIII Laureate head l. Rev. AEQVITAS – AVGVST / S – C Aequitas standing l. holding scales in r. hand and rod in l. C 5. BMC 204. RIC 215. CBN 207.
Struck on a very broad flan and with a pleasant dark tone, good very fine 1'500

Ex Lanz 94, 1999, 359 and CNG 88, 2011, 1296 sales. From the Sierra Collection.



- 174 Cistophoric tetradrachm struck in Rome 80-81 for circulation in Asia. AR 11.17 g. IMP TITVS CAES – VESPASIAN AVG P M Laureate head r. Rev. CA – PIT Tetrastyle temple enclosing figures of Juno along with seated Jupiter and Minerva; in exergue, RESTIT. C –. BMC 1948. RIC 515. RPC 860. CBN 111.
Extremely rare. Old cabinet tone and very fine 1'500

Ex Helios 4, 2009, A. Lynn, 317; CNG 57, 2001, 1151 and Gemini IX, 2012, Harry N. Sneh, 458 sales.

A fairly recent addition to the Roman imperial corpus: though this reverse type has long been known on cistophori of Domitian as Augustus in 82 AD (Cohen 23, 100 Frs.), this counterpart of Titus struck a year or two earlier was apparently unknown until the BM acquired a specimen in 1948. Since then at least five other specimens have emerged: (1) Hess-Leu, 24 March 1959, lot 342, acquired by the Berne museum; (2) Leu 50, 25 April 1990, lot 295, acquired by Paris; (3) ANS, Ben Damsky Gift; (4) Berk 124, 3 January 2002, lot 448 (same obverse die as ours); finally (5) the present coin, ex CNG 57, 4 April 2001, lot 1151.

Julia Titi, daughter of Titus



- 175 Denarius 80-81, AR 3.42 g. IVLIA AVGVSTA TITI AVGVSTI F Diademed and draped bust r. Rev. VENVS – AVGVST Venus, naked, standing r., l. elbow leaning on *column*, holding helmet and spear. C 14. BMC Titus 141. RIC Titus 388. CBN Titus 106.

In exceptional condition for the issue. Struck on sound metal,
wonderful iridescent tone and Fdc

10'000

Ex Tkalec October 2011, 164 and NAC 78, 2014, 902 sales.

As so often was the case with Imperial women, Julia Titi, one of two daughters of Titus, was destined to be a dynastic pawn. While still young Titus tried to convince his younger brother Domitian to marry her (just as Claudius had married his niece Agrippina), but he was already married to Domitia, and refused on that account. Instead Julia Titi married a second cousin, Flavius Sabinus, a grandson of Vespasian's famous brother. But their respective marriages could not keep Domitian and Julia Titi apart, and for years they engaged in a secret affair. When Titus succeeded his father as emperor in 79, he bestowed on his daughter the title of Augusta. The enduring love affair of Julia Titi and Domitian only came to be known publicly in about 83, when Domitian exiled his wife. Uncle and niece soon were openly living together in the palace, and Domitian executed Julia's husband in the following year on the flimsiest imaginable charge. Their incestuous affair did not end pleasantly, though: Julia died in 90 or 91 of fatal complications of an attempted abortion. This was a terrible blow to Domitian, who deified Julia Titi and eventually recalled his wife Domitia from exile. His devotion was proven in the end, when one of his nurses, presumably acting on a wish Domitian had expressed near the end of his life, mixed his ashes with those of Julia Titi.



- 176 Sestertius 92-94, Æ 26.09 g. DIVAE IVLIAE AVG DIVI TITI F Richly decorated carpentum drawn r. by two mules; in exergue, S P Q R. Rev. IMP CAES DOMIT AVG GERM COS XVI CENS PER P P around large S C. C 10. BMC Domitian 472. RIC Domitian 760 (this coin cited and illustrated). CBN Domitian 502.

Rare. Green patina, possibly artificially reproduced, and good very fine

3'000

Ex Gorny & Mosch 125, 2003, 449 and NAC 52, 2009, 1031 sales.

Domitian caesar, 69 – 81



177

- 177 Sestertius early 76-early 77, Æ 25.51 g. CAESAR AVG F DOMITIANVS COS IIII Laureate head r. Rev. PA – X – AVGVSTI Pax standing l., in outstretched r. hand and cornucopiae in l. C –. BMC Vespasian –, RIC 925. CBN –.

Very rare and in exceptional condition for the issue, undoubtedly one of the finest sestertii of Domitian in existence. A bold portrait and a wonderful dark green patina. Good extremely fine

35'000

Ex Helios sale 4, 2009, 320.

As the younger son of Vespasian, Domitian hardly benefited from his father's fame during his formative years, whereas his older brother, Titus, experienced quite the opposite. In both cases their childhood and adolescences seem to have galvanized their personalities and their perspectives on the world. Titus grew up when his father was greatly favored in the court of Claudius; indeed Titus was a boyhood friend of Claudius' son Britannicus and very nearly died from the poison that killed Britannicus. When Vespasian fell out of favour for most of Nero's reign (as he was closely associated with the fallen Narcissus), Domitian was then in his formative years, and his life experience was one of relative poverty and isolation. Then, when Nero recalled Vespasian from obscurity to serve as proconsul in Africa, and later still to lead the war in Judaea, Titus was 27 years old and was able to join his father; Domitian was only 15 years old and remained in Rome. While Vespasian and Titus gained glory in Judaea and Alexandria, Domitian lived dangerously in war-torn Rome. Once again, as Titus benefited, Domitian suffered – this time as a potential target of Galba and Otho, and as a dangerously obvious target of Vitellius. Indeed, in the final days of Vitellius' regime, Domitian narrowly missed death by disguising himself as a devotee of Isis and escaping the burning Temple of Capitoline Jupiter in which his uncle, the prefect of Rome Flavius Sabinus, perished. Even when his father and brother returned to Rome, Domitian was not taken seriously. He received many superficial honors (see Suetonius, Domitian 1-2), but was entrusted with no real responsibility and played a distant second fiddle to his brother. Thus, it is no surprise that Domitian was rumored to have murdered Titus, in whose shadow he had always lived enviously, nor is it any wonder that when Domitian finally assumed supreme power, he ruled in a more extravagant fashion than his father and brother.



178

- 178 Aureus 77-78, AV 7.25 g. CAESAR AVG F – DOMITIANVS Laureate head r. Rev. Bearded Parthian wearing cloak and trousers, kneeling r., offering standard with *vexillum* attached; in exergue, COS V. C 48. BMC Vespasian 231. RIC Vespasian 959. CBN Vespasian 205. Calicó 819b (these dies).

In an exceptional state of preservation. A wonderful portrait in the finest style of the period and a superb light reddish tone. Virtually as struck and almost Fdc

30'000

Ex Hess-Leu 41, 1969, Virgil Brand, 151 and Leu 87, 2003, Perfectionist, 16 sales.

The reverse of this remarkably fine aureus depicts a barbarian kneeling in submission presenting a Roman standard. While the long trousers and cloak clearly identify the figure as a Parthian, the bowl-shaped curly hair style and long beard are a far cry from the portraits found on any contemporary Parthian drachms. These features do, however, quite strongly favour the middle-aged portrait of Mithradates the Great, the Parthian monarch who reigned from 121-91 B.C. We might wonder if the model for this interesting reverse had been an old Parthian tetradrachm or drachm of Sellwood type 24 showing the king with a mid-length beard. Regardless of whether a Parthian coin served as inspiration for the engraver, what is most interesting about this reverse is the complex story behind it. The type mirrors the famous kneeling Parthian reverse of Augustus by the moneyers Turpilianus, Florus, and Durmius c. 19/8 B.C. which commemorated the return of the few surviving captives as well as the Roman military standards from the Roman defeats suffered by Cassius at Carrhae in 53 B.C., by L. Decidius Saxa in Syria in 40 B.C., and by Mark Antony in 36 B.C. Mattingly saw in the type a reference to the Parthian embassy which arrived at Vespasian's court seeking aid against the nomadic Alani, who at the time were pressing upon the northern borders of the Parthian Empire and proving a nuisance. His argument was that Domitian sought to lead an eastern campaign in support of the Parthians against the Alani, but that Vespasian refused to sanction the expedition. As discussed in the commentary to the lot above, this would simply be another instance of Domitian being sidelined by his father and his elder brother.

However, Mattingly's argument does not hold up under closer scrutiny. Curtis Clay questioned why Vespasian would even commemorate his refusal of offering aid to the Parthians, and if he had, would it not have more properly belonged on the coinage of Vespasian himself and not that of his second, younger son? With Mattingly's argument refuted, the question then arises: if there is no event to commemorate, what is the purpose of the reverse? Again, Clay astutely observed that Vespasian was simply reusing older types from circulation so that they would not be lost. In this view, it must first be understood that Vespasian was profiting from Nero's debasement of the coinage in A.D. 64 by actively withdrawing and reissuing pre-64 gold and silver from circulation. In fact, several other reverse types struck the same year that this coin was struck clearly copy earlier reverse types from precious metal issues.



179

- 179 Denarius 80-81, AR 3.34 g. CAESAR DIVI F DOMITIANVS COS VII Laureate head r. Rev. PRINCEPS – IVVENTVTIS Draped seat; above, Corinthian helmet. C 217. BMC Titus 83. RIC Titus 271. CBN Titus 79. Light iridescent tone and extremely fine

1'000

Privately purchased from Harlan J. Berk. Ex Tkalec 23 October 1992, 252 and Tkalec 23 October 1998, 146 sales.



- 180 Denarius 80-81, AR 3.34 g. CAESAR DIVI F DOMITIANVS COS VII Laureate head r. Rev. PRINCEPS – IVVENTVTIS Goat standing l. within laurel wreath. C 390. BMC Titus 88. RIC Titus 267. CBN Titus 73.
Struck on a very broad flan and with a lovely iridescent tone, good extremely fine 2'000
Ex Triton III, 1999, 1054 and Triton XII, 2007, 586 sales. From the Gordon S. Parry Collection.

Domitian augustus, 81 – 96



- 181 Denarius 81, AR 3.36 g. IMP CAES DIVI VESP F DOMITIAN AVG P M Laureate head r. Rev. TR P COS VII – DES VIII P P Wreath on curule chair. C =. BMC =, cf. p. 302. RIC 50. CBN =.
An extremely rare variety. Light iridescent tone and about extremely fine 500
Ex Freeman & Sear Mail Bid sale 8, 200, 454 and Gemini IX, 2012, 386 sales. From the A. Lynn and Harry N. Sneh collections.



- 182 Sestertius 85, Æ 27.41 g. IMP CAES DOMITIAN AVG GERM COS XI Laureate head r., with aegis. Rev. S – C Domitian in military attire, standing l., holding spear in l. hand; at his feet, German captive kneeling r. presenting shield. In exergue, broken spear. C 488. BMC 299. RIC 279. CBN 320.
An impressive portrait and an interesting reverse die. Dark tone and extremely fine 3'500
Ex CNG sale 60, 2002, 1622.



- 183 Denarius 1 January-13 September 88, AR 3.54 g. IMP CAES DOMIT AVG – GERM P M TR P VII Laureate head of Domitian r. Rev. IMP XIII COS XIII CENS P P P Minerva standing r. on capital of rostral column, holding spear in r. hand and shield in l., owl at her feet. C 236. BMC 117. RIC 576. CBN 115. Light iridescent tone, virtually as struck and Fdc 2*500
Ex Tkalec sale 18 February 2002, 150.



- 184 Denarius circa 88, AR 3.45 g. IMP CAES DOMIT AVG – GERM P M TR P VIII Laureate head r. Rev. LVD / SAEC / FEC inscribed on *cippus*; at sides, COS – XIII. All within wreath. C 70. BMC 137. RIC 604. CBN 126. Rare. Lightly toned and good extremely fine / almost Fdc 2*500
Ex Triton I, 1997, 1400 and NAC 29, 2005, 524 sales.



- 185 Didrachm, Caesarea-Eusebia 93/94 (year 13), AR 6.92 g. AYT KAI ΔOMITIANOC – CEBACTOC ΓEPM Laureate head of Domitian r. Rev. ETO – IT Club. BMC 30. Metcalf 24. Sydenham Caesarea 126. RPC 1670. Old cabinet tone and about extremely fine 750
Privately purchased from Ed Waddell. Ex Spink's Circular 108, 2000, 2923.



- 186 Aureus 92-94, AV 7.57 g. DOMITIANVS – AVGVSTVS Laureate head r. Rev. GERMANICVS COS XVI Germania seated r. on shield; below, broken spear. C 158. BMC 211. RIC 747. CBN 187. Calicó 854 (this coin illustrated). Rare. Well struck and centred on a full flan and about extremely fine 15'000

Ex Sotheby, Wilkinson & Hodge, London 6 July 1921, Seltman 25; Auctiones 22, 1992, 523; NAC-Spink Taisei, 16 November 1994, Gilbert Steinberg, 347; NAC 45, Barry Feirstein IV, 2008, 110 and Nomos Fixed Price List, 2011, 96 sales.



- 187 Tetradrachm, Antioch 91/92 (year 11), AR 14.71 g. ΑΥΤΟ ΚΑΙΣΑΡ ΔΟΜΙΤΙΑΝΟΣ ΣΕΒ ΓΕΡΜ Laureate bust r. with aegis. Rev. ΕΤΟΥΣ ΝΕΟΥ ΙΕΡΟΥ ΕΝΔΕΚΑΤΟΥ Eagle standing facing on thunderbolt, wings spread, with head and tail r., holding wreath in its beak; in l. field, palm branch. McAlee 400. Prieur 147. RPC 1980.

In excellent condition for the issue and struck on sound metal. Minor marks, double-striking on reverse, otherwise about extremely fine

1'500

Ex CNG sale 90, 2012, 1101.



- 188 Semis 90-91, Æ 2.65 g. IMP DOMIT AVG GERM COS XV Draped bust of Apollo r. Rev. Raven perched r. on branch; in exergue, S C. C 527. BMC 453. RIC 710. CBN 484.

Wonderful green patina and extremely fine / good extremely fine

2'500

Privately purchased from Ed Waddell.



189

- 189 Leaded bronze, Cilicia under Anazarbus 93/94 (year 112). Æ 8.27 g. ΑΥΤΟ ΚΑΙ ΘΕ ΥΙ ΔΟΜΙΤΙΑΝΟΣ ΣΕ ΣΕΡ Laureate head of Domitian r.; behind, star. Rev. ΚΑΙΣΑΡΕΩΝ ΔΟΜΕΤΙΑ ΣΕΒΑΚΤΗ C Draped bust of Domitia l.; in field, IB – P. BMC 9. SNG France 2019. RPC 1749.

Two very attractive portraits and a lovely dark green patina. About extremely fine

1'000

Privately purchased from Ed Waddell.

Domitia, wife of Domitian



190

- 190 Denarius 82-83. AR 3.56 g. DOMITIA AVGVSTA IMP DOMIT Draped bust r. Rev. CONCOR – DIA AVGVST Peacock r. C 2. BMC Domitian 151. RIC Domitian 61. CBN Domitian 65.

Very rare and among the finest specimens known. A magnificent portrait struck in high relief on sound metal. Good extremely fine

15'000

Ex Nomos 2, 2010, 182 and Ira & Larry Goldberg 80, 2014, 3142 sales.

To collectors of Roman coins the peacock – the familiar of the goddess Juno – is a type frequently employed by empresses. The admiration of the peacock was nothing new even in Roman times, for it is said that upon reaching India Alexander the Great was so impressed with the variety and beauty of the plumage on this stately bird that he forbade killing them under the severest penalty. Though the Romans also held the bird in high esteem, they had no objections to eating the bird or its eggs. Although the peacock becomes commonplace on coins of the 2nd and 3rd centuries, especially as a symbol for the deified empresses, it was inaugurated by the Flavians on issues struck for Domitia and Julia Titi. A point of some interest is that on the issues Domitian struck for his wife Domitia the peacock is shown in profile with its tail feathers gathered, whereas on the issues he struck for his niece Julia Titi, the peacock is shown facing with its tail in full splendour

Trajan, 98 – 117



191

- 191 **Divus Iulius.** Aureus 112-113 AD, restoration issue under Trajan, 98-117 AD, AV 7.10 g. DIVVS – IVLIVS Laureate head of Caesar r. Rev. IMP·CAES·TRAIAN·AVG·GER·DAC·P·P·REST Nemesis, winged, walking r., holding caduceus in l. hand and drawing fold of drapery with r.; in lower r. field, serpent. C 55. BMC 689. RIC 815. Calicó 48 (this obverse die). Komnick pl. 26, 54. Woytek 852.1 (this coin cited). Extremely rare and an issue of great historical interest. An intriguing portrait of the deceased dictator struck in high relief, minor marks, otherwise good very fine 60'000

Ex Glendining's 20 February 1951, Ryan IV, 1573; Santamaria 6 June 1956, Distinto Raccogliatore Milanese, 27; Lanz 52, 1990, 365 and NAC 73, 2013, Student and his Mentor part II, 277 sales.

This is a rare issue to find and when it does appear it is usually in similar grade to the present specimen. This coin is a great alternative to someone building a set of the twelve Caesars in gold who wants a large portrait of Julius Caesar. MSG.

Two main portrait types for Julius Caesar appear to have been introduced around the time of his murder in 44 B.C. The standard portrait, the 'Chiaramonti type', was the model used for most Caesar issues of the Imperial age, whereas the 'Tusculum type' was used only for the first Caesar portrait coins, denarii of M. Mettius, and for aurei of the Trajanic restoration series. The 'Tusculum type,' as described by Johansen in his study of the portraiture of Julius Caesar (Ancient Portraits in the J. Paul Getty Museum: Volume 1, pp. 17-40), is named after a marble portrait in the Museo di Antichità in Turin that was excavated from the Forum in 1825 by Lucien Bonaparte. It is recognisable by the diagnostic 'saddle' on the top of Caesar's head created by the prolonged back of his cranium. Trajan issued two aurei in his restoration series for Caesar. One, represented here, shows on its obverse Caesar wearing a wreath and surrounded by the inscription DIVVS IVLIVS; its reverse depicts Pax-Nemesis in the manner of the aurei and denarii of Claudius inscribed PACI AVGVSTAE. The other, which bears on its obverse the inscription C IVLIVS CAES IMP COS III and shows Caesar bare-headed, is paired with a reverse type that is a partial invention likely derived from Augustan aurei and denarii. In both cases, however, the inspiration may have been coinage of the Flavians, who recycled those earlier designs.



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